

FARM AID

RON NIXON

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WASHINGTON - The Senate approved a sweeping new farm bill Monday that will cost nearly \$955 billion over the next 10 years, the first step in a renewed attempt at passing legislation that will set the country's food and agriculture programs and policy.



Sen. Debbie Stabenow, D-Mich., chairwoman of the Senate Agriculture Committee, speaks to reporters after the Senate voted on the farm bill at the Capitol in Washington, Monday, June 10, 2013. (AP Photo/J. S. Applewhite)

The bill, which finances everything from crop insurance for farmers to food assistance for low-income families and foreign food aid, passed with overwhelming bipartisan support, 66-27. The Senate passed a similar bill last year, but the House failed to bring its bill to a vote. The last farm bill was passed by both chambers in 2008 and was extended until Sept. 30.

"The Senate today voted to support 16 million American jobs, to save taxpayers billions and to implement the most significant reforms to agriculture programs in decades," said Sen. Debbie Stabenow, D-Mich., chairwoman of the Senate Agriculture Committee, who co-authored the bill with Sen. Thad Cochran, R-Miss., the ranking member of the committee.

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Jury selection begins for Trayvon Martin trial

George Zimmerman, right, and co-counsel Don West, left, talk during a recess on the first day of his trial, in Sanford, Fla., Monday, June 10, 2013. Zimmerman is accused in the fatal shooting of Trayvon Martin.

(AP Photo/Joe Burbank)

MIKE SCHNEIDER
Associated Press

SANFORD, Florida (AP) — Jury selection in the case of black teen Trayvon Martin's fatal shooting began Monday in Florida, the scene of massive protests last year by people angry that police waited 44 days before charging a neighborhood watch volunteer with second-degree murder. The case drew worldwide attention as it fanned a de-

bate about race, equal justice under the law and gun control.

There is no dispute George Zimmerman shot an unarmed Martin, 17, during a fight on a rainy night in February 2012. Prosecutors will try to show Zimmerman racially profiled the teenager, while his attorney must convince jurors Zimmerman fired a bullet into the high school student's chest because he feared

for his life. On Monday, the first group of 100 potential jurors filled out questionnaires about themselves and their ability to serve on the jury as prosecutors and defense attorneys sought to find six objective members and four alternates. In Florida, 12 jurors are required only for criminal trials involving capital cases, when the death penalty is being considered. By the time the all-day ses-

sion concluded, attorneys had interviewed four potential jurors, asking them what they had heard about the case on television, in newspapers and on the Internet.

Zimmerman was present in the jury holding room as his defense attorneys and prosecutors introduced themselves to the potential jurors.

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Swollen Elbe River breaches new levee in Germany

GEIR MOULSON
Associated Press

BERLIN (AP) — The swollen Elbe River breached another levee early Monday on its relentless march toward the North Sea, forcing German authorities to evacuate 10 villages and shut down one of the country's main railway routes.

As the surge from the Elbe pushed into rural eastern Germany, there was some relief further upstream as the river slipped back from record levels in Magdeburg, the capital of Saxony-Anhalt state.

To the south, the Danube hit a record high Sunday evening in the Hungarian capital, Budapest, then began to ease back Monday. Officials said the city escaped significant damage, and Prime Minister Viktor Orban said soldiers and rescue workers would shift their focus further south.

Weeks of heavy rain this spring have sent the Elbe, the Danube and other rivers such as the Vltava and the Saale overflowing their banks, causing extensive damage in central and southern Germany, the Czech Republic, Austria, Slovakia and Hungary. At least 22 flood-related deaths have been reported.

The German city of Magdeburg grappled over the weekend with water levels more than 16 feet (five meters) above normal, but the Elbe retreated by about a foot (30 centimeters) on Monday. More than 23,000 residents had to leave their homes on Sunday. Officials said an electricity substation in the city was no longer in danger of flooding — which would have made the situation worse by cutting off power to the drainage pumps.

Further downstream, a levee at Fischbeck, west of Berlin, was breached overnight, prompting officials to evacuate 10 villages in the area.

Germany's national railway said it had to close a bridge near Fischbeck that is used by trains linking Berlin to Cologne, Frank-

furt and Amsterdam. Some trains were being diverted via other bridges to the north and south, causing significant delays, and others were canceled.

The low-lying old district of Lauenburg, a riverside town east of Hamburg, was evacuated as authorities prepared for floodwaters to

peak there later this week. Soldiers and volunteers have worked frantically over the past week to fill sandbags and reinforce flood defenses across central Europe.

Even with all those efforts, "we should accept that we humans should be humble, that even in the 21st cen-

tury we don't completely control nature — that is one lesson from this situation," Saxony-Anhalt's interior minister, Holger Stahlknecht, told ZDF television.

He said it was too early to analyze what, if anything, might have been done to prepare better for flooding.

In Budapest, the Danube peaked late Sunday about a foot (31 centimeters) above the previous record, set in 2006.

"The capital city has pulled through the crest of the flood," Orban said while inspecting areas close to the Danube in northern Budapest. □



The roof of a summer cottage mirrors in the flooded area near Doemitz at river Elbe, northern Germany, Monday June 10, 2013. Weeks of heavy rain this spring have sent the Elbe, the Danube and other rivers such as the Vltava and the Saale overflowing their banks, causing extensive damage in central and southern Germany, the Czech Republic, Austria, Slovakia and Hungary.

(AP Photo/dpa, Jens Buettner)

Egypt warns all options open for Ethiopia Nile dam

AYA BATRAWY
MAGGIE MICHAEL
Associated Press

CAIRO (AP) — Egypt's president on Monday hardened his stance against Ethiopia and its construction of a Nile dam, warning that "all options are open" in dealing with the project that threatens to leave Egypt with a dangerous water shortage.

Speaking in a live televised speech before hundreds of supporters, Mohammed Morsi said Egypt is not calling for war, but it is willing to confront any threats to its water security.

"If it loses one drop, our blood is the alternative," he said to a raucous crowd of largely Islamist supporters that erupted into a stand-

ing ovation.

Ethiopia's \$4.2 billion hydroelectric dam, which would be Africa's largest, challenges a colonial-era agreement that had given Egypt and Sudan the lion's share of rights to Nile water. Experts estimate that Egypt could lose as much as 20 percent of its Nile water in the three to five years needed for Ethiopia to fill a massive reservoir.

"If Egypt is the Nile's gift, then the Nile is a gift to Egypt," Morsi said in his opening remarks.

The president's speech reflected the importance of the Nile River to Egypt. It provides almost all of the fresh water to a country that is otherwise largely parched desert. As much

as 85 percent of the Nile's water comes from Ethiopia. "We are not calling for war, but we will not allow, at all, threats against our water security," Morsi said before adding, "all options are open."

Morsi appeared to be using concern about Ethiopia's megaproject to whip up nationalistic fervor ahead of protests planned against him later this month.

In the conference hall where Morsi delivered his speech, some of his supporters chanted slogans against Israel and accused it of colluding with Ethiopia to harm Egypt. Blaming Israel for Egypt's problems is common here. Israel denied any connection to the construction of the dam.

Morsi said he would be willing to approach opposition groups in order to unite Egyptians around a common position with regard to the dam. This came after two prominent opposition parties declined an invitation to meet Morsi last week, citing a lack of transparency in dealing with national issues and a failure to listen to them.

"The great Nile is that which all our lives are connected to. The lives of the Egyptians are connected around it ... as one great people," Morsi told the crowd.

Shifting his tone later in the speech, Morsi said that Egypt considers Ethiopia a "friend" and noted he has visited the country twice since taking office. □

Report: Fourth of New York City may be a hot flood zone by 2050s

JENNIFER PELTZ
Associated Press

NEW YORK (AP) — By the 2050s, more than 800,000 New York City residents could be living in a flood zone that would cover a quarter of the city's land and New Yorkers could sweat out as many 90-degree (32-Celsius) days as is now normal for Birmingham, Alabama, as effects of global warming take hold, a scientists' group convened by the city says. With local waters higher than they are today, 8 percent of the city's coastline could see flooding just from high tides, the group estimates. And while the average day could significantly hotter, a once-in-a-century storm would likely spur a surge higher than Superstorm Sandy, which sent a record 14-foot (4.3-meter) storm tide gushing into lower Manhattan.

The updated predictions were released Monday, ahead of recommendations Mayor Michael Bloomberg is to present Tuesday on what to do about threats that Sandy brought into stark relief.

"We have to look ahead and anticipate any and all future threats, not only from hurricanes and other coastal storms but also from droughts, heavy downpours and heat waves — many of which are likely to be longer and more intense in the years to come," an excerpt from the mayor's planned speech says.

Two top Bloomberg aides who oversaw the study, Seth Pinsky and Deputy Mayor Caswell Holloway, wouldn't hint at what the suggestions would be, what they might cost or how they might be financed. Many key decisions likely will come after Bloomberg's third and final term ends this year.

Bloomberg said last winter the study would examine the pros and cons of building berms, dunes, levees and other coast-protection structures. But he has historically been cool to the idea

of massive sea walls — and emphatic about not suggesting that people move out of coastal areas.

City Hall, the state government and others have released warnings over the years about climate risks in the nation's most populous city. The city has required some new developments in flood zones to be elevated and has restored wetlands as natural barriers, among other steps. "Sandy, obviously, increased the urgency of dealing with this and the need to plan and start to take concrete steps," Holloway said.

The new projections echo 2009 estimates from the scientists' group, called the New York City Panel on Climate Change, but move up the time frame for some upper-end possibilities from the 2080s to mid-century.

"The overall numbers are similar, but we have more compelling evidence now that (a more severe scenario from 2009) is looking like a more realistic possibility now," due to improved computer models and more evidence that some ice sheets are melting, said Radley Horton, a climate scientist with Columbia University's Earth Institute and a researcher with the city climate panel.

Scientists have reached a consensus on global warming, but still debate how severe the effects will be.

Meanwhile, the Federal Emergency Management Agency released revisions Monday to proposed new flood zone maps for the city. About 218,000 people and 35,000 buildings are in the current once-in-100-year flood zone, drawn in the 1980s. The new maps roughly double those numbers, though the revision shifts about 5,800 structures from a subset called the V zone — the area expected to suffer the worst damage — to a less stringent zone.

A roughly two-year review is expected before new maps become official. They can affect building regulations and insurance. □

Supreme Court: Justices split over sentencing guidelines

ADAM LIPTAK
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WASHINGTON — In a 5-4 decision that broke along ideological lines, the Supreme Court on Monday ruled that courts violate the Constitution's ex post facto clause when they take account of the current version of the federal sentencing guidelines if those guidelines call for harsher punishment than the ones in place at the time of the

rather than judges make the factual findings supporting criminal sentences. The question that divided the justices Monday was whether the current discretionary guidelines retained enough force to subject defendants to a substantial risk of additional punishment and thus violate the ex post facto clause's prohibition of enhanced retroactive punishment.

The case, *Peugh v. United*

tence of 70 to 87 months. The judge settled on the lower number.

Had the judge instead referred to the guidelines in place at the time of the fraud, the suggested range would have been 30 to 37 months.

"The low end of the 2009 guidelines range," still in effect in 2010, Justice Sonia Sotomayor wrote for the majority Monday, "was 33 months higher than the high end of the 1998 guidelines range," which were in effect in 1999 and 2000.

Sotomayor said guidelines imposed significant constraints on sentencing judges even after being made advisory.

Justices Ruth Bader Ginsburg, Stephen G. Breyer and Elena Kagan joined all of the majority opinion, and Justice Anthony M. Kennedy most of it.

In dissent, Justice Clarence Thomas wrote that the guidelines, since they are only advisory, "do not constrain the discretion of district courts and, thus, have no legal effect on a defendant's sentence."

Chief Justice John G. Roberts Jr. and Justices Antonin Scalia and Samuel A. Alito Jr. joined that part of Thomas' dissent.

In another development Monday, the court let stand a court order barring abortion protesters from displaying images of aborted fetuses in places where they may disturb children. As is their custom, the justices gave no reasons for declining to hear the case. □



The U.S. Supreme Court building in Washington, June 10, 2013. The Supreme Court on Monday ruled, in a 5-to-4 decision, that courts violate the Constitution when they apply new, harsher federal sentencing guidelines to old offenses.

(Drew Angerer/The New York Times)

offense.

If such sentencing guidelines were mandatory, as they once were, the case would have been easy. But in 2005 the Supreme Court ruled that the guidelines must be treated as advisory to avoid running afoul of a line of Sixth Amendment cases requiring that juries

States, No. 12-62, arose from bank fraud committed in 1999 and 2000 by Marvin Peugh, an owner of two farming businesses.

When it came time for sentencing in 2010, the trial judge took note of the guidelines then in place, which suggested a sen-

1 wounded in Texas army post shooting

PAUL WEBER
Associated Press

SAN ANTONIO (AP) — A soldier who wounded a fellow service member in a shooting at Fort Sam Houston surrendered and is in military custody, a base spokesman said Monday.

The shooting took place at the Army Medical Department Center and School at about 2:50 p.m., the Army

said in a statement. Base spokesman Brent Boller said the gunman surrendered to police and the female victim is in stable condition. Police Chief William McManus told the San Antonio Express-News that the victim and shooter were involved in a relationship and that no other people were targeted in the attack. The woman was hospitalized on the post, Boller said.

Authorities locked down the base for about two hours while military police cleared the building where the shooting took place.

Fort Sam Houston is one of the oldest U.S. military bases still in operation and is located in central San Antonio. Besides hosting one of the nation's top burn units, most army medics undergo training there. □



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Jury selection begins for Trayvon Martin trial

Continued from Front

"The more opportunities for the potential jurors to interact with the defendant, even if the defendant is just sitting there, the better," said Orlando defense attorney David Hill, who has no connection to the case. "Jurors have to see him as a human being in the flesh, not a theoretical person accused of a crime. Any possible way they can connect with him is good from the defense point of view."

Zimmerman is charged with second-degree murder. He says he shot Martin in self-defense. If convicted, Zimmerman, who identifies himself as Hispanic, could get a life sentence. Under Florida law, Zimmerman, 29, could shoot Martin in self-defense if it was necessary to prevent death or great bodily harm.

The confrontation began when Zimmerman spotted Martin, whom he did not recognize, walking in the gated townhome community where Zimmerman lived and the fiancée of Martin's father also lived.

There had been a rash of recent break-ins there, and Zimmerman was wary of strangers. He was well-known to police dispatchers for his regular calls reporting suspicious people and events.

Martin was walking back

lice dispatcher. "These a---s, they always get away," Zimmerman said on the call. Zimmerman, who had a concealed weapons permit, was armed.

The two then got into a struggle. Zimmerman told police he had lost sight

nose, knocking him down, and then got on top of him and began banging Zimmerman's head on the sidewalk. Photos taken after the fight show Zimmerman with a broken nose, bruises and bloody cuts on the back of his head. He said that when Martin spotted his gun holstered around his waist under his clothes, he said, "You are going to die tonight." Zimmerman said he grabbed the gun first and fired. Martin died at the scene.

Police calls made by neighbors captured cries for help during the fight and then the gunshot. Martin's parents say the cries were from their son, while Zimmerman's father has testified they were from his son. The shooting received little initial attention, but that changed after Martin's parents hired Benjamin Crump, a prominent civil rights attorney. He began complaining to the news media, accusing the police and prosecutors of letting the murderer of a black child go free, and contacting other civil rights leaders, including the Revs. Jesse Jackson and Al Sharpton, to get their support. □



Tracy Martin, center, and Sybrina Fulton, right, the parents of slain teen Trayvon Martin, and their attorney, Benjamin Crump second from left, are greeted by a family friend, far left, during the first day of the trial of George Zimmerman, in Seminole circuit court in Sanford, Fla., Monday, June 10, 2013. Zimmerman is accused in the fatal shooting of Trayvon Martin.

(AP Photo/Joe Burbank)

from a convenience store after buying ice tea and Skittles. It was raining, and he was wearing a hoodie. Zimmerman called police, got out of his vehicle and followed Martin despite being told not to by a po-

lice dispatcher. "These a---s, they always get away," Zimmerman said on the call. Zimmerman, who had a concealed weapons permit, was armed. The two then got into a struggle. Zimmerman told police he had lost sight

Cleanup work after BP oil spill end in 3 states

NEW ORLEANS (AP) — Cleanup work has ended in three of the states affected by BP PLC's massive 2010 oil spill in the Gulf of Mexico, the company said Monday.

The London-based oil giant said the Coast Guard has concluded "active cleanup operations" in Mississippi, Alabama and Florida, but the work continues along 84 miles (135 kilometers) of Louisiana's shoreline.

The cleanup by BP contractors ended last Friday in Alabama, on June 1 in Florida and on May 1 in Mississippi, according to company spokesman Jason Ryan.

The Coast Guard will continue responding to reports of oil washing up anywhere along the Gulf Coast. BP said it will take responsibility for removing any oil that came from its blown-out Macondo well. "This is another important step towards meeting our goal of returning the shoreline to as close to pre-spill conditions as possible while managing the scale of the response to meet conditions on the ground," Coast Guard Capt.

Duke Walker said in a statement.

BP said it has spent more than \$14 billion on response and cleanup activities, with more than 48,000 people involved in those efforts at the height of the spill's aftermath.

"The transition is a significant milestone toward fulfilling our commitment to clean the Gulf shoreline and ensuring that the region's residents and visitors can fully enjoy this majestic environment," Laura Folse, BP's executive vice president for response and environmental restoration, said in a statement. □

American, US Airways name post-merger leadership

DAVID KOENIG
AP Airlines Writer

DALLAS (AP) — The new American Airlines will have more top executives from smaller but more successful US Airways than from the current American.

Five US Airways executives will follow their current CEO, Doug Parker, when he takes control after the airlines complete their proposed merger. Three executives from American parent AMR Corp. were named to the new company's leadership team.

AMR and US Airways Group Inc. hope to complete their proposed merger this sum-

mer. The deal still needs approval by U.S. antitrust regulators and AMR's bankruptcy creditors.

Although AMR creditors and shareholders will own 72 percent of the new company, and it will still be based in Fort Worth, Texas, the makeup of the executive team underscores that it was Parker who drove the merger and convinced AMR's unions and creditors to support him.

US Airways veterans will hold the most important management jobs including president, chief financial officer and chief operating officer. The new com-

pany's 12-member board will have four holdovers from US Airways and three from AMR.

AMR filed for bankruptcy protection in November 2011. For many months, CEO Tom Horton considered the idea of emerging from bankruptcy as a stand-alone company, not a merger partner, but creditors decided otherwise. Horton will serve briefly as chairman of the new company — to be called American Airlines Group Inc. — before exiting next year.

The senior executives joining from US Airways are Scott Kirby, who will keep

his title of president, Derek Kerr as chief financial officer, Robert Isom as chief operating officer and Elise Eberwein and Stephen Johnson as executive vice presidents.

From AMR's ranks, Parker and Horton picked Beverly Goulet as chief integration officer, Maya Leibman as chief information officer and William Ris as senior vice president of government affairs.

"Mergers unfortunately result in departures, and there are some on both teams," Parker wrote in a note Monday to employees of both companies. □

Obama names longtime aide as his chief economic adviser

JACKIE CALMES

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WASHINGTON - The Council of Economic Advisers will have a prominent voice in White House discussions after President Barack Obama named his longtime adviser Jason Furman as chairman of the panel on Monday.

Furman, 42, who had a large role in developing the government's response to the economic crisis, "is one of the most brilliant economic minds of his generation," Obama said in making the nomination official before an audience of friends and family members at the White House. The president urged the Senate to quickly confirm Furman, who has won respect from both parties despite the divisiveness of the fiscal fights of recent



President Barack Obama, flanked by Jason Furman, left, the deputy director of the National Economic Council, and Alan Krueger, chairman of the Council of Economic Advisers, speaks at a news conference in State Dining Room of the White House, in Washington, June 10, 2013. Obama nominated Furman Monday to be the next chairman of the Council of Economic Advisers.

(Stephen Crowley/The New York Times)

years.

During Obama's presidency, Furman has moved up at the White House National Economic Council, becoming principal deputy to the director, Gene B. Sperling.

The departure of the current chairman of the Council of Economic Advisers, Alan B. Krueger, who decided to return to Princeton, created an opening for Furman, long considered for higher posts.

The three-member council provides research and advice to the White House on economic policy, but some leaders of the council have been more influential and more prominent than others over the years. Obama's first leader of the council, Christina D. Romer, was a central player during the recession.

Officials say that Furman, having had more personal engagement with Obama than other advisers, is expected to maintain closer ties to the president than some of his predecessors.

Furman was the economic policy director in Obama's 2008 campaign.

Senate passes farm bill; house vote less sure

Continued from Front

The Senate bill cuts \$24 billion from current spending levels, including about \$4.1 billion from food stamps over the next 10 years. Groups fighting hunger said the cuts in food stamps would put millions of poor families at risk. A House version of the bill provides for food stamp cuts of \$20 billion, just one major example of how far apart the two houses are in adjusting spending.

In the House, the farm bill faces a much tougher road. Last year, conservative lawmakers helped kill the bill because of their desire for deeper cuts in the food stamp program, which serves about 45 million Americans.

Hoping to satisfy conservatives, the House Agriculture Committee recently increased the amount of cuts to the program to the \$20 billion mark over the next 10 years, up from \$16 billion in last year's bill. In a statement before the Senate vote, Speaker John A. Boehner, R-Ohio, said the House would begin work on its version of the farm bill this month. Conservation programs that help protect farmland and waters will be cut about \$3.5 billion in the Senate bill, with additional cuts coming from the automatic spending cuts known as the sequester. Senators also left in place the decades-old international food aid program. The Obama administration had called for overhauling the \$1.4 billion program to

allow the government to buy food locally in less developed countries, instead of buying food in the United States and shipping it over-

seas. The Senate rejected the proposal but increased spending for buying food abroad to \$60 million from \$40 million.

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Memento dispute settled, Kobe's parents say sorry

DAVID PORTER
Associated Press

NEWARK, New Jersey (AP)

— Professional basketball star Kobe Bryant has reached a settlement with an auction house that allows his mother to sell a small amount of his memorabilia, while also getting an apology from his parents, who thanked him for his financial support.

Kenneth Goldin, founder of southern New Jersey-based Goldin Auctions, said Monday that his company and the Los Angeles Lakers star had reached a settlement. Through a pub-

licist, an attorney for Bryant also confirmed the dispute had been resolved.

Citing a confidentiality agreement, Goldin wouldn't discuss details of the settlement beyond identifying the six items to be auctioned, including two uniforms worn by Bryant at Lower Merion High School outside Philadelphia and two 2000 National Basketball Association championship rings Bryant gave to his parents.

Goldin Auctions sued in federal court last month after Bryant's lawyers wrote the company telling it to

cancel a planned auction of close to 100 items. The Los Angeles Lakers star claimed his mother, Pamela, didn't have the right to sell the items. Bryant also filed suit against the auction company in California. A trial had been scheduled to begin next week. Under the settlement, Goldin also will sell Bryant's 2000 NBA All-Star game ring and his medallion and ribbon from Magic's Roundball Classic, a high school all-star game. In an emailed statement, Bryant's parents wrote: "We regret our actions and statements related to the

Kobe Bryant auction memorabilia. We apologize for any misunderstanding and unintended pain we may have caused our son and appreciate the financial support that he has provided to us over the years. We also would like to apologize to Goldin Auctions for their inadvertent involvement in this matter and thank them for their assistance."

Goldin said auction prices can be difficult to predict but that he thinks the high school uniforms and the All-Star Game ring will fetch the highest prices. He expects the items to go for

\$100,000 to \$250,000 each. The auction is scheduled to run from June 17 to July 19. "We are very happy it settled and we are happy with the items," Goldin said. "If I'd looked at the list from the beginning and picked nine items I wanted to get my hands on, I've got five of them." Bryant jumped from high school straight to the NBA in 1996 and has won five championships with the Lakers, most recently in 2010. His father, Joe, played eight seasons in the NBA with Philadelphia, San Diego and Houston. □

10 women, many in 90s, escape California limo fire

SAN FRANCISCO (AP)

— Ten women — some of them in their 90s — escaped unharmed from a limousine that began smoking and caught fire in Northern California just more than a month after five nurses were killed while trapped inside a burning limousine on a nearby bridge.

The women were celebrating one of their 90th birthdays and were in the vehicle outside the birthday woman's home — where they had gathered shortly after 11 a.m. — when white smoke drifted out of the partition between the driver's compartment and the passenger compartment, Mary Chapman, one of the passengers, said Monday.

The limousine was idling, but the doors were open. Chapman, 63, said she got out and the other women — some of whom relied on

walkers and canes — followed with help from each other and a caregiver.

"I think that's what saved us," she said.



Mary Chapman, right, talks during an interview at the site of a limousine fire in Walnut Creek, Calif., Monday, June 10, 2013. Chapman was one of ten women who escaped unharmed when the limousine they were in burst into flames while idling in Northern California.

(AP Photo/Marcio Jose Sanchez)

"The doors were not closed, so they weren't locked."

Flames erupted about 15 minutes later, she said, although the women were out by then and had moved into the home. Television news footage showed the limo's passenger and driver's compartments completely gutted.

The limo fire on the San Mateo-Hayward Bridge over San Francisco Bay last month spread rapidly, engulfing the luxury car in just a few moments.

The five women who died were found pressed up against the 3-foot (one meter) by 1 1/2-foot (0.5 meter) partition, apparently be-

cause smoke and fire kept them from the rear exits of the extended passenger compartment.

Four women and the driver escaped. The women were celebrating the wedding of a newlywed friend. The California Highway Patrol has not concluded its investigation of the May 4 fire.

Industry experts say the stretch limousine industry is poorly regulated because regulatory agencies lack funds to investigate the many small businesses that modify limousines.

U.S. Department of Transportation data shows five people died in three separate stretch limo accidents in 2010, and 21 people died in another three accidents in 2011. □

US paying \$580,000 to settle suit by ex-official

MARCY GORDON
AP Business Writer

WASHINGTON (AP)

— The Securities and Exchange Commission is paying \$580,000 to settle a lawsuit by a former assistant SEC inspector general who accused the agency of firing him in retaliation for bringing possible misconduct to light.

The SEC reached the settlement last month with David Weber, who sued the agency in November. Weber's attorney, Cary Hansel, announced the settlement Monday. Weber was the assistant inspector

general for investigations, one of those responsible for probing allegations of misconduct by SEC officials and employees. He is an attorney and a certified fraud examiner.

Weber had raised concerns about possible inappropriate relationships between former SEC inspector general David Kotz and women he worked with on investigations of the Ponzi schemes run by Bernard Madoff and Allen Stanford. Weber also warned of a security flaw in some SEC computers that contained sensitive stock-exchange

data. Kotz, who left the SEC in January 2012, has denied the allegations. He didn't immediately return a telephone call seeking comment Monday.

SEC spokesman John Nester said the settlement "resolves the matter to everyone's satisfaction and permits the Office of the Inspector General to continue to focus on its important work."

A lengthy report by the U.S. Postal Service inspector general's office, provided to the SEC in September, found that Kotz's relation-

ships with the women created potential conflicts of interest. It also found merit in Weber's concerns of a potential security breach caused by the lack of encryption in some SEC computers containing sensitive stock-exchange data.

The SEC has said the computer problem has been corrected.

Weber was put on paid administrative leave in May 2012 after some colleagues complained that he created a hostile workplace by talking about wanting to bring a firearm to work and bringing a bul-

letproof vest to the office. He was fired in October.

The Postal Service IG's report did not find that Weber created a hostile work environment or engaged in threatening behavior in the office. However, the report appeared to find some merit in two complaints against Weber that involved management issues.

In his settlement with the SEC, Weber also got the right to be reinstated in his job. He does not wish to return to the agency, Hansel said in a telephone interview. □

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US Financial Front:

S&P boosts outlook for US government's long-term debt



Photo shows 55 Water Street, home of Standard & Poor's, in New York. Standard & Poor's Ratings Services upgraded its outlook Monday, June 10, 2013, for the U.S. government's long-term debt. S&P cited the government's strengthened finances, a recovering U.S. economy and some easing of Washington's political gridlock.

(AP Photo/Henny Ray Abrams)

Treasury Department, said, "We're pleased that they (S&P officials) are recognizing the progress in the U.S. economy and fiscal results." Asked whether she was concerned that this action could take pressure off Congress to take further action on the budget deficit and increase the debt ceiling later this year, Miller said, "I haven't given that any thought, but obviously we would like to see progress on things like the U.S. debt ceiling." Treasury is currently taking various actions to provide headroom under the current debt ceiling but it is expected to exhaust those maneuvers sometime this fall.

Miller said that Treasury officials had met recently with S&P to discuss the improved deficit outlook but that the ratings agency had not given the administration a heads up that a ratings upgrade was imminent. □

PAUL WISEMAN

AP Economics Writer

WASHINGTON (AP) — Standard & Poor's Ratings Services upgraded its outlook Monday for the U.S. government's long-term debt. S&P cited the government's strengthened finances, a recovering U.S. economy and some easing of Washington's political gridlock.

The credit rating service raised its outlook to "Stable" from "Negative," which means it's less likely to downgrade U.S. debt in the near future.

S&P also reaffirmed the government's "AA+" long-term and "A-1+" short-term unsolicited sovereign credit ratings. The long-term rating remains a notch below

S&P's top grade.

S&P had downgraded the U.S. government's long-term credit rating in 2011 after a standoff in Congress over whether to raise America's borrowing limit. Stan Collender, a budget expert with the Qorvis Communications consultancy, downplayed the significance of Monday's move. S&P's downgrade two years ago had no lasting effect on U.S. interest rates, the stock market or the value of the dollar. Long-term U.S. interest rates remain historically low — evidence that global investors remain confident in the government's creditworthiness.

Mary Miller, undersecretary for domestic finance at the

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Afghan Taliban stage brazen attack on Kabul airport

PATRICK QUINN
Associated Press

KABUL, Afghanistan (AP)

— Seven Taliban fighters with rocket-propelled grenades and machine guns launched a rare assault on NATO's operational headquarters at the military section of Kabul's international airport on Monday. All seven militants were killed. Their failed attack showed that despite an asphyxiating security blanket around the capital, Afghanistan's insurgency is far from defeated after nearly 12 years of war, and militants can still menace the capi-

tal.

Gunfire and explosions from the pre-dawn battle could be heard in many parts of Kabul. No one was killed except the attackers, but it emphasized the challenges faced by Afghanistan's fledgling security forces as they prepare to take the lead from a U.S.-led coalition that is rapidly withdrawing its remaining forces. The spectacular attacks are aimed at demoralizing the population and sowing mistrust in the Afghan security forces' ability to protect their citizens — rather than military

gains.

"We can expect high profile attacks, we can expect insider threats and we can expect maybe some assassinations," said German Gen. Gunter Katz, spokesman for the U.S.-led International Security Assistance Force. "We adapt our security measures appropriately, we assess the security situation on a permanent basis and we remain very vigilant."

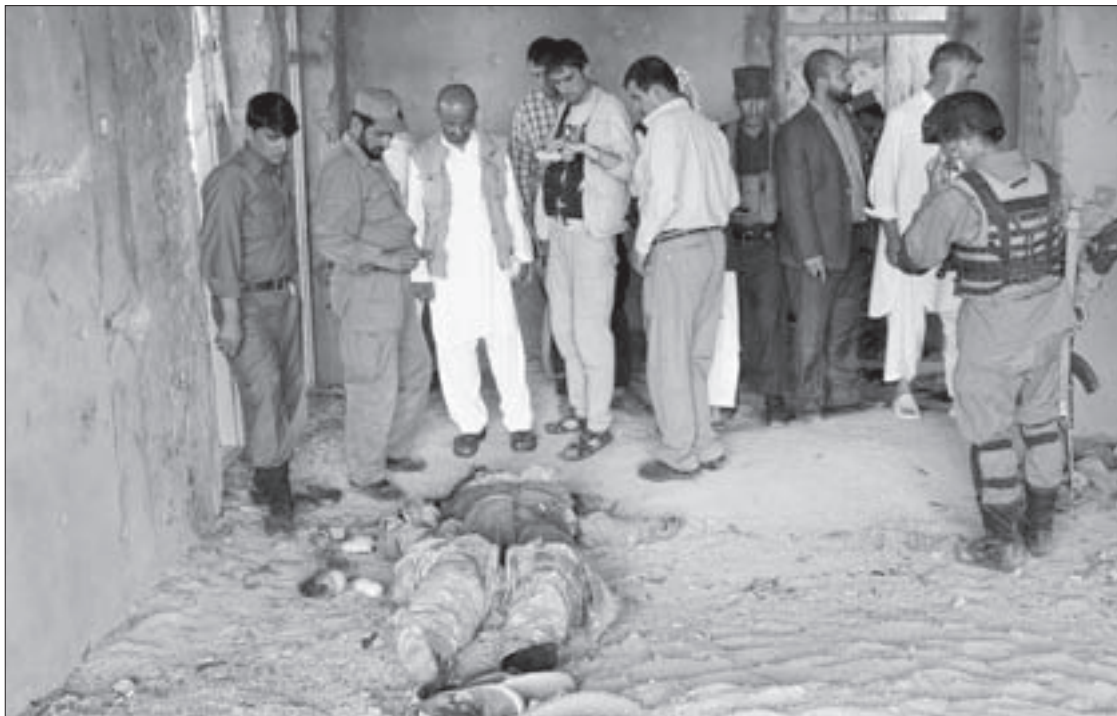
The Taliban, who claimed responsibility for the airport attack, have been testing Afghan security forces as foreign combat troops pull

back more than a decade after the U.S.-led invasion to oust the Taliban regime for sheltering al-Qaida's leadership after the Islamic extremist group launched the Sept. 11, 2001, terrorist attacks in the United States. In declaring their spring campaign, the Taliban said they would target Afghan and coalition forces and government officials around the country. Although they said they would not target civilians, the overwhelming number of dead and wounded so far has been ordinary Afghans. The attack was one of three against state facilities on Monday morning by insurgents around the country. In addition to the airport attack, six militants wearing suicide bomb vests tried to storm the provincial council building in the capital of southern Zabul province, while three attempted to attack a district police headquarters near the capital. Elsewhere, a roadside bomb killed a Polish soldier in the NATO force. Interior Ministry spokesman Sediq Sediqi said that in Zabul the attackers wounded 18 people, including three police officers, when they detonated a car bomb outside the building in the city of Qalat, but security forces shot and killed them before they could enter. On the outskirts of Kabul, police

killed one attacker and arrested two others who tried to storm the headquarters building in the Surobi district.

At the airport, the insurgents did not get close enough to attack aircraft and were not near the runway's flight path. Even if they had managed to damage the airport, it would have affected civilian flights but not had an impact on military operations, which are carried out from a military airfield at Bagram about 50 kilometers (30 miles) north of the capital. But they did manage to sneak in a minivan full of explosives, rocket-propelled grenades, heavy machine guns and assault rifles along with their suicide vests. Such weapons have been used repeatedly in Kabul attacks over the recent months, including an eight-ton bomb on a truck in March that was discovered just before it was to be used to attack a NATO base. Afghan President Hamid Karzai said his government would not be deterred.

"These cowardly terrorist attacks on the Afghan people cannot change the chosen path of the Afghan people toward progress, development, peace and elections," Karzai said, referring to next spring's poll to elect a new head of state. □



Afghan men stand near the body of an insurgent killed in a battle near Kabul airport, Afghanistan, Monday, June, 10, 2013. Seven heavily armed Taliban fighters launched a pre-dawn attack near Afghanistan's main airport Monday, apparently targeting NATO's airport headquarters with rocket-propelled grenades, assault rifles and at least one large bomb. Two Afghan civilians were wounded and all the attackers were killed after an hours-long battle.

(AP Photo/Ahmad Jamshid)

NEWSBREAK:

Turkey premier to meet with Istanbul protesters

SUZAN FRASER
Associated Press

ANKARA, Turkey (AP)

— Turkey's prime minister will meet with a group of protesters occupying Istanbul's central Taksim Square this week, the deputy prime minister said Monday, as the government sought a way out of the impasse that has led to hundreds of protests in dozens of cities. Deputy Prime Minister Bulent Arinc said, however, the government would no longer tolerate "illegal acts," and implied that the occupation of Taksim and its accompanying Gezi

Park would be over by the weekend.

"Illegal acts in Turkey from now won't be allowed and whatever needs to be done according to the law will be done," he said after a Cabinet meeting chaired by Prime Minister Recep Tayyip Erdogan. "All necessary actions against illegal acts will have been completed, and we will see this all together, by the weekend."

The protests appeared on the wane, with the smallest number of demonstrators in the past 11 days gathering in Taksim on Monday

night. The protesters occupying Gezi Park remain, however.

Smaller protests occurred in Ankara too, with about 5,000 people demonstrating. Police there have used water cannon and tear gas to break up demonstrations almost every night.

Three people have died and more than 5,000 have been treated for injuries or the effects of gas during the protests. The government says 600 police officers have also been injured.

Erdogan will meet Gezi

Park protesters Wednesday, following a request by some of the protesters, Arinc said, but not at the square. With no clear leadership organizing the Gezi occupation, it was unclear who the prime minister would be meeting.

The unrest was sparked by a violent police crackdown on a peaceful sit-in by protesters objecting to a project replacing the park with a replica Ottoman-era barracks.

The crackdown, in which protesters were confronted with tear gas and water cannon as they slept, gal-

vanized tens of thousands of Turks. The demonstrations quickly turned into a denunciation of what many see as Erdogan's increasingly autocratic ways and attempts to impose Muslim values on a country with secular laws — charges the prime minister vehemently rejects.

A law restricting the sale of alcohol and banning its advertising — one of the things protesters had pointed to as evidence of decreasing social tolerance — was signed into law by President Abdullah Gul on Monday. □

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Iraq:

Brutal wave of bomb attacks continue, killing dozens

ADAM SCHRECK
Associated Press

BAGHDAD (AP) — A wave of car bombings rocked central and northern Iraq on Monday, killing at least 57 people and extending the deadliest eruption of violence to hit the country in years. Attackers initially targeted market-goers early in the morning, then turned their sights on police and army posts after sunset. Security forces scrambled to contain the violence, blocking a key road in central Iraq and imposing a curfew in the former Sunni insurgent stronghold of Mosul after the blasts went off. Killing in Iraq has spiked to

levels not seen since 2008. The surge in bloodshed, which follows months of protests by the country's Sunni Arab minority against the Shiite-led government, is raising fears that Iraq is heading for another bout of uncontrollable sectarian violence. The upsurge comes as foreign fighters are increasingly pouring into neighboring Syria, where a grueling civil war has taken on sectarian overtones similar to those that pushed Iraq to the brink of its own civil war in 2006 and 2007. Syria's conflict is fueling sectarian tensions inside Iraq, with Iraqi al-Qaida-linked



Civilians inspect the scene of a car bomb attack at al-Ameen neighborhood in Baghdad, Iraq. Several shops were damaged in the attack.

(AP Photo/Karim Kadim)

Sunni militants cooperating with ideological allies among the Syrian rebels, while Iraqi Shiite militants increasingly fight alongside forces loyal to Syria's Iranian-backed regime. There was no immediate claim of responsibility for Monday's attacks — as has been the case for much of the violence in recent weeks — but coordinated car bombings in civilian areas and against security forces are frequently the work of al-Qaida's front group in Iraq, known as the Islamic State of Iraq. □

Iran:

Bushehr's nuclear plant has generator problem

MOSCOW (AP) — Iran's Russian-built nuclear power plant has had an electric generator malfunction, an Iranian official said Monday. The flaw at the Bushehr plant wasn't caused by recent earthquakes in Iran, Mahmoud Reza Sajjadi, Iran's ambassador to Russia, was quoted by the ITAR-Tass news agency as saying. Sajjadi said Russian and Iranian experts are trying to fix the problem, without saying when it occurred or whether it led to the plant's shutdown. Russia's state-controlled Rosatom nuclear agency, which built the plant, had no comment on Sajjadi's

statement. Iran has defied Western demands that it halt nuclear programs that could be used for making atomic weapons, though it insists its uranium enrichment program has peaceful goals. The plant in the southern port of Bushehr isn't considered a proliferation threat, but some nations have voiced concern about its safety. Last week, diplomats from several countries monitoring Iran's nuclear program told The Associated Press that recent restricted information gathered from the site indicated that long cracks appeared in at least one section of the structure. □

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Al-Qaida leader: Syria, Iraq branch merger scrapped

BASSEM MROUE
Associated Press

BEIRUT (AP) — Al-Qaida's leader has tried to end squabbling between the terror network's Syrian and Iraqi branches, ordering the two groups to remain separate after an attempted merger prompted a leadership dispute between them.

This came as Syrian rebels battled Monday in a renewed push to capture a government air base in the north, while the regime was said to be preparing for a

Al-Zawahri's call could also reflect a bid to carve out a more significant role for al-Qaida in the Syria civil war. Jabhat al-Nusra, or the Nusra Front, is the most powerful rebel force fighting to topple President Bashar Assad.

In April, al-Qaida in Iraq said it had joined forces with the Nusra Front, forming a new alliance called the Islamic State in Iraq and the Levant.

Hours after the announcement, Nusra Front leader Abu Mohammad al-Golani

Assad's government in April seized upon the reported merger to back its assertion that it isn't facing a true popular uprising but a foreign-backed terrorist plot.

The merger had also caused friction among rebels on the battlefield who feared the announcement would further discourage Western powers discussing funneling weapons, training and aid toward rebel groups and army defectors.

On Monday, rebel forc-



This photo purports to show Al-Qaida's new leader Ayman al-Zawahiri in a still image from a web posting by al-Qaida's media arm, as-Sahab. Al-Qaida's leader has tried to end squabbling between the terror network's Syrian and Iraqi branches, ordering the two groups to remain separate after an attempted merger prompted a leadership dispute between them.

(AP Photo/IntelCenter)

major offensive to retake opposition-held areas in the province of Aleppo.

The Qatar-based Al-Jazeera TV reported that al-Qaida leader Ayman al-Zawahiri urged leaders of the Iraqi al-Qaida branch and the Nusra Front in Syria to end their disagreements and "stop any verbal or actual attacks against one another."

The TV said al-Zawahiri's call came in a letter sent to the station and posted on its website late Sunday. The letter's authenticity could not be independently verified. The Britain-based Syrian Observatory for Human Rights, which has a network of activists on the ground in Syria, said it also acquired a copy of the letter but did not provide other details.

appeared to distance himself from the merger, saying he was not consulted. Instead, he pledged allegiance to al-Zawahiri.

In Sunday's letter, al-Zawahiri chastises the head of al-Qaida in Iraq, Abu Bakr al-Baghdadi, saying he announced the merger without consulting al-Qaida's leadership.

"The Islamic State in Iraq and the Levant will be abolished," al-Zawahiri said, adding that Nusra Front will remain an independent branch of al-Qaida. Al-Baghdadi and al-Golani are to stay on as leaders of their respective branches for another year, after which the al-Qaida leadership will decide whether they will keep their posts or be replaced.

es advanced inside the sprawling air base of Managh near the border with Turkey, activists said. The Observatory said rebels captured a building inside the base, which has been under siege for months. The opposition's Aleppo Media Center said rebels destroyed several army vehicles and captured the observation tower.

Activists also reported clashes around the predominantly Shiite villages of Nubul and Zahra, besieged by rebels for a year. Aleppo-based activist Mohammed al-Khatib said military reinforcements, including Hezbollah fighters, have been sent to parts of Aleppo, including the two Shiite villages and north-western parts of the city. □

Pakistan president to new leaders: Stop the militancy

RIAZ KHAN
ZARAR KHAN

Associated Press

ISLAMABAD (AP) — Pakistan's president, in what will likely be his last major speech to parliament, urged the new government on Monday to keep up the fight against militancy, one of the many problems facing the country.

Asif Ali Zardari spoke hours after militants dressed as policemen and armed with assault rifles and rockets attacked trucks in Pakistan carrying supplies to U.S.-led NATO troops in neighboring Afghanistan, killing four people.

The attack and the speech both drew attention to the continuing threat militants pose to the stability of Pakistan.

The May 11 elections marked the first time in Pakistan's 65-year history that a civilian government completed its full term and handed over power in democratic elections. Previous governments have been toppled by military coups or sacked by presidents allied with the army. Zardari's Pakistan People's Party was badly beaten in the elections. The victorious Pakistan Muslim League-N party of new Prime Minister Nawaz Sharif campaigned primarily on fixing the country's economy, while pushing for peace talks with the Pakistani Taliban and other militant groups.

In a wide-ranging speech, Zardari, now a largely powerless figure who has already said he won't run again for the ceremonial presidency, bid Sharif's crew well on the economic front, but also urged them to clamp down on extremists who have killed thousands in Pakistan in the last decade.

"Militancy, extremism and terrorism pose the greatest threat to our national security," Zardari said. As he has done many times, he carried to the podium with him a picture of his late wife Benazir Bhutto, the former Pakistani prime

minister who was killed in a gun-and-suicide bomb attack in late 2007.

"The nation is united against militants," the president said. "We need strong leadership to overcome the threat. We are ready to make peace with those willing to give up violence, but should be ready to use force against those who challenge the writ of the state."

In Monday's attack, the militants emerged from the mountains and fired rockets at the NATO trucks, burning two vehicles, local official Iqbal Khan said. The militants wore local police uniforms, and the four dead included truck drivers and their assistants, he said. The attack took place in the Jamrud area of the Khyber tribal region, along the main route into Afghanistan for the supply trucks. Government official Jehangir Azam told DunyaNews TV that around 15 heavily armed militants were involved.

"It was a very organized attack," he said, adding that the trucks carried a NATO jeep, an ambulance and other materials. U.S.-led coalition forces say such hired trucks transport only non-lethal supplies overland through Pakistan.

The route through Khyber is one of two main entry points into Afghanistan used by the Western forces. Militant attacks on the road have frustrated NATO, and Pakistan has at times closed the route to vent its anger over NATO actions, including airstrikes that killed Pakistani soldiers.

As a result, the U.S. has increased its use of more costly routes through Central Asia to get supplies into Afghanistan.

Relations with the U.S. figured in Zardari's speech Monday. He condemned U.S. drone strikes in Pakistan's tribal regions, saying Pakistan could not allow violations of its sovereignty, a stance shared by Sharif.

Zardari's speech was punctuated by applause, including some from Sharif. □

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Australian McCardel eyes swim from Cuba to Florida

ANNE-MARIE GARCIA
Associated Press

HAVANA (AP) — Australian Chloe McCardel will battle exposure, swift sea currents, stinging jellyfish, sharp-toothed sharks and her own physical limits when she attempts a record swim from Cuba to Florida this week.

The 29-year-old, who is bidding to become the first person to make the 100-mile (161-kilometer) Straits of Florida crossing without the protection of a shark cage, said Monday that the challenge has great allure for top athletes.

"At the moment it's the most high-profile marathon long-distance swim, and swimmers really want to come here and be the first," McCardel said in an interview with The Associated Press. "It's very important; it's like winning a gold medal."

American Diana Nyad and Australian Penny Palfrey have attempted the crossing four times between them since 2011, but each time threw in the towel part way through due to injury, jellyfish stings or strong cur-

rents. Australian Susie Maroney did it in 1997, but with a shark cage.

Seated on a terrace at the Hemingway Marina in Havana, where she arrived late Sunday, a smiling McCardel said she hopes to help bring Cubans and Americans closer by symbolically bridging the gap.

"I would very much love to encourage people to come here as tourists and to engage more with Cuba ... to promote travel and great relations with Cuba," she said. "From what I'm learning it's a very beautiful country, and I feel privileged to have been invited here."

Most U.S. travel to Cuba is barred under Washington's 51-year embargo against the island, although Americans are increasingly coming here on legal cultural exchanges and family visits.

The two nations have been at odds since shortly after the 1959 Cuban Revolution ushered in Fidel Castro's Communist-run government, leading to decades of mutual suspicion and bad relations between



Australian swimmer Chloe McCardel poses in a swimming position in front of a painting of Ernest Hemingway inside a hotel at the Marina Hemingway after an interview in Havana, Cuba, Monday, June 10, 2013. McCardel, 29, is bidding to become the first person to make the Straits of Florida crossing without the protection of a shark cage.

(AP Photo/Ramon Espinosa)

Washington and Havana. A 32-person support team that includes weather experts and doctors will accompany McCardel on her ocean odyssey, which should last about 55-65 hours if she makes it all the way. Every half-hour or so she plans to pause to eat

and down a half-liter of energy drink to stay hydrated. Meanwhile, special equipment will include an electromagnetic field in the water around her that is designed to keep sharks at bay.

McCardel, who lives in Melbourne, has been swim-

ming since childhood and also competed in triathlons. According to her website, she has made six solo crossings of the English Channel, two double-crossings in 2010 and 2012 and won the 28.5-mile (46-kilometer) Manhattan Island Marathon Swim in 2010. □

Jamaica officials tour area where 4 people shot dead

KINGSTON, Jamaica (AP)

— Jamaica's top cop and the island's security minister have toured a gritty neighborhood where four men were shot to death and two other people were wounded as they played cards.

Police Commission Owen Ellington visited the Seaview Gardens area of the capital Monday. He told residents that police will maintain a strong presence in the community and urged relatives and friends of the

victims not to carry out acts of reprisal.

Authorities say three people are in custody for the Friday night shooting. They believe the killings were in reprisal for a murder.

National Security Minister Peter Bunting and other police personnel went to the troubled neighborhood Sunday. Without disclosing any details, Bunting says he believes that criminals living overseas were directing the activities of local thugs. □

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Haiti:

2 out of 3 people face hunger as woes mount

TRENTON DANIEL
Associated Press

BELLE ANSE, Haiti (AP) — The hardship of hunger abounds amid the stone homes and teepee-like huts in the mountains along Haiti's southern coast. The hair on broomstick-thin children has turned patchy and orangish, their stomachs have ballooned to the size of their heads and many look half their age — the tell-tale signs of malnutrition.

Mabriole town official Ge-neus Lissage fears that death is imminent for these children if Haitian authorities and humanitarian workers don't do more to stem the hunger problems. "They will be counting bodies," Lissage said, "because malnutrition is ravaging children, youngsters and babies."

Three years after an earthquake killed hundreds of thousands and international donors promised to help Haiti "build back better," hunger is worse than ever. Despite billions of dollars from around the world pledged toward rebuilding efforts, the country's food problems underscore just how vulnerable its 10 million people remain.

In 1997 some 1.2 million Haitians didn't have enough food to eat. A decade later the number had more than doubled. Today, that figure is 6.7 million, or a staggering 67 percent of the population that goes without food some days, can't afford a balanced diet or has limited access to food, according to surveys by the government's National Coordination of Food Security. As many as 1.5 million of those face malnutrition and other hunger-related problems.

"This is scandalous. This should not be," said Claude Beauboeuf, a Haitian economist and sometime consultant to relief groups. "But I'm not surprised, because some of the people in the slums eat once every two days."

Much of the crisis stems from too little rain, and then too much. A drought

last year destroyed key crops, followed by flooding caused by the outer bands of Tropical Storm Isaac and Hurricane Sandy.

Haiti has had similarly destructive storms over the past decade, and scientists say they expect to see more as global climate change provokes severe weather systems.

Klaus Eberwein, general director of the government's Economic and Social Assistance Fund, said: "We are really trying our best. It's not like we're sitting here and not working on it. We have limited resources."

He attributed Haiti's current

have sold for about \$17 apiece, the poultry for about \$2.80. She could have used the animals for food or the money to hold her over until the new harvest season.

"You depend on this, because it's all you have," Jean said.

Many people have been forced to buy on credit, or look for the cheapest food available while eating smaller and fewer portions. Some families have asked relatives to take care of their children, or handed them over to orphanages so they have one less mouth to feed, humanitar-

cede that not all areas have received food kits and other goods as part of the different aid programs designated for Haiti.

"It hasn't arrived here yet. It's nothing but rhetoric," said Jean-Marc Tata, a math and French teacher and father of two who lives in Mabriole.

His 18-month-old son's hair began to turn orange after Tropical Storm Isaac knocked down trees, chewed up crops and killed livestock, leaving the family with little to eat.

"We had beans that were ready to pick but everything was lost. This has



In this May 23, 2013 photo, a malnourished 4-year-old Michelene Thelusme sits outside her home in Belle Anse, Haiti. In a country where half the food is imported, meals are becoming less affordable as the value of Haiti's currency depreciates against the U.S. dollar.

(AP Photo/Dieu Nalio Chery)

hunger woes to "decades of bad political decisions" and, more recently, to last year's storms and drought. "Hunger is not new in Haiti," Eberwein said. "You can't address the hunger situation in one year, two years."

In the village of Mabriole, Marie Jean, a 33-year-old mother of six, looked helpless as her naked son Dieu-fort sat cross-legged in the dirt, a metal spoon in hand that was more toy than tool. The 5-year-old boy barely looked 3, his gaze unfocused and glassy eyes lifeless. His stomach was distended.

Jean said she lost 10 goats and several chickens to Isaac. The goats could

ian workers say.

Political decisions already had hurt the ability of Haitian farmers to feed the country. One example: Prodded by the U.S. government, Haiti cut tariffs on imported U.S. rice, driving many locals out of the market.

Eighty percent of Haiti's rice — and half of all its food — is imported now. Three decades ago, Haiti imported only 19 percent of its food and produced enough rice to export. Factories built in the capital at the same time did little to help: They led farmers to abandon their fields in the countryside in hope of higher wages.

Government officials con-

been a major cause of malnutrition," Tata said in a courtyard ringed with stone homes.

Tata said he had given his son a cup of coffee with a bit of bread, his only meal so far that day as dusk began to fall. The day before: a single bowl of oatmeal.

Haiti in general and the mountain villages in particular have long suffered from chronic hunger. Child malnutrition rates have been high for years. The United Nations' World Food Program reports that nearly a quarter of Haiti's children suffer from malnutrition, though the figure is higher in places such as Guatemala and the Sahel region in Africa. □

Dominica: Catholics vow support for accused priest

C. JNO BAPTISE
Associated Press

ROSEAU, Dominica (AP) — Dozens of parishioners gathered outside a Roman Catholic church Sunday to support a parish priest who has been accused of molesting a girl nearly two decades ago.

Catholics in Dominica's Grand Bay held cardboard placards saying "Our parish priest has to stay" and chanting their support for Monsignor Reginald Lafleur, who they referred to as "Father Reggie."

The 59-year-old priest was put on administrative leave after a woman alleged that he touched her inappropriately on her "bottom and breast" and made "sweet eyes" at her 19 years ago when she was a 12-year-old parishioner. The woman made the accusations against Lafleur in a series of letters to Bishop Gabriel Malzaire, the head of Dominica's diocese.

Malzaire has sent the accuser to the Caribbean country of Trinidad & Tobago for counseling as a local church panel investigates her allegations. He has not stated publicly why he decided to send her for counseling in Trinidad.

In one of her letters to Malzaire, the woman wrote, "I need money and it seems that I am being ignored."

On Sunday, members of a church committee insisted Lafleur was innocent of the accusations and met privately with the bishop, who performed the morning Mass at the Grand Bay church to mostly empty pews. Most of the parishioners remained outside, milling about and holding placards.

Edward Registe, a member of the local church committee, told the crowd of protesters that Malzaire had said the investigation into the accusations against the parish priest would take another month at least. The demonstrators chanted, "We want Father Reggie back now!" □



The 9th Prokids Bonaire 2013 a super successful event!



KRALENDIJK, BONAIRE - The 9th ProKids Bonaire 2013 started on May 31st with Registration day, with a total of 87 participants in the different age categories in windsurfing Slalom, Freestyle, SUP and Freestyle Night Sailing. This weekend the spectators could not only enjoy the windsurfing competition but also other beach sports such as Beach Soccer, Beach Volleyball, Bolas and Domino. The committee chose a very well known and respected athlete who has

demonstrated to have all the qualities to be a true Role Model for the youngsters and also among the pros. Elton 'Taty' Frans has been chosen this year to be the spokes person for the ProKids Bonaire 2013 event. He has many achievements under his belt and the latest; breaking his own record of windsurfing between Bonaire and Curacao in 1 hour and 40 minutes. Taty also won first place in the categories: Freestyle Night Sailing MEN,

Slalom MEN and SUP MEN during the ProKids Bonaire 2013 event. The entire team is very happy and satisfied in how Taty once again showed everyone that; with perseverance you can achieve any goal that you set before you. The entire weekend the event site was filled with viewers who were entertained by the different sports and music. The results are in and the organization and committee of the event who was coordinated by Gerrald Victo-

rina (General Coordinator) and his team are overly excited with the outcome of the event. With the Race Director Viktor Wijnand and Head Judge Nathaniel "Mac" Mac Farlane together with the other judges and officials did a great job in keeping the scores and making the event a great one. This year we had excellent wind conditions and a very high level of competition amongst the participants. These really created a very positive impact and boost

up the event even more. This year was a sneak peak for next year's event, where ProKids Bonaire will be celebrating its 10th Anniversary. The committee has already started with planning the event where it will be even bigger.... Be pending! Visit our website www.prokidsfreestyle.com and become a Fan of our Facebook Page: Prokids Wind-surfing Bonaire for more information and further results, images of the event and keep posted for next year's event. □

Bonaire, Sorobon Beach Resort:

Breeding ground for Windsurfers & Heaven for others!



BONAIRE - "Many people still believe Sorobon Beach Resort is a naturist Resort.....THE CONTRARY is true: Sorobon Beach Resort is open for everybody!", says Annette van Rooijen, managing director of this best kept secret of Bonaire "As of December 18th, 2010 Sorobon Beach Resort has opened her doors again. We are welcoming all future visitors who are searching for the perfect combination of privacy, quality time with your family, romance, space, exclusivity, nature and tranquility.

At the same time the luxury of service to your doorstep, served lunches and cocktails at the beach bar, fine dining in the restaurant & last but not least the perfect ambiance for a family vacation", continues Mrs. Van Rooijen.

"Over the past 2 years we have been expanding our facilities at Sorobon Beach Resort and we now offer: s Tropical Spa "Pedisa" where you can be pampered with any kind of treatment. Besides our "Home away from home" restaurant

we have opened a Lounge and Beach Terrace ON the beach overlooking the beautiful BLUE Bay of Sorobon! "

Mrs. Van Rooijen would like Bonaire to focus on a broader market, not only on diving. Bonaire is a product that can offer great vacations to a wide range of visitors. "We are therefore investing maximum energy and focus in the non-divers. In order to meet the needs of many more travellers, we can compose any kind of package that meets your needs; wellness, adventure, sportive, romance, culinary, families etc....

Aruba Residents: You are invited!!

Mrs. Van Rooijen realizes that Sorobon is not that well known in Aruba yet and therefore decided to offer all Aruba Residents a local rate when visiting Sorobon Beach Resort. "It is your perfect Mini Vacation with Maximum Results! Unwinded and unhasted in one day!!".....she is just so



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"Follow us on facebook for all the events and activities that we are organizing.... Sorobon is alive...."

Or Subscribe for our newsletter on: management@sorobonbeachresort.com" "Why do 5 of Bonaire's windsurfers end in the TOP 10 free stylers of the world?? Sorobon offers the excellent learning conditions for surfing... Sorobon Beach Resort sponsors the Surf Pro Kids of Bonaire to join the "Aruba Highwinds".

Mrs. Van Rooijen is too excited and likes to share this with us: "Eight young local windsurfers have confirmed that they may represent Bonaire during the Aruba Highwinds competitions from 2 to July 8, thanks to sponsoring from 3 companies situated in the Sorobon Bay. "

Her neighbor colleague and wind surf specialist Gert Jan continues:

"For a number of years we are thinking of ways to offer our talented young wind-

surfers the opportunity to join the greatest windsurf event in Aruba", says Gertjan de Man, along with his wife, Fiona, manager of Jibe City.

"Up till now it was unfortunately never possible to realize this plan, however with the joint efforts & sponsoring of Sorobon Beach Resort & The Hang Out Bar together with Jibe City, this dream becomes reality for our talented 7 boys and 1 girl", continues Gertjan.

"The location of Sorobon, Bonaire, is one of the best surf spots in the world; it is not a coincidence that 5 of our windsurfers end up in the Top 10 of the windsurfers world wide", Gertjan adds with enthusiasm.

The three companies that are driven to make this happen for our Pro Kids, not only want to keep supporting the kids and make their dreams come true, but also put their hands together in promoting Bonaire as a Windsurf Destination. Join us and follow our Windsurf Pros by facebook! □

Beauty On The Beach

Sandra Santelmo

Living in Barcelona España She was born in Venezuela and her parents are born in Italy She works as a dentist in Spain. And this is her third visit in Aruba she is on vacation staying at a friends house

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Aruba says "Masha Danki" to three loyal visitors!



DRUIF BEACH - Recently the Aruba Tourism Authority had the great pleasure of honoring a group of loyal and friendly visitors. The honorees are Donata A. and Mary Ann Cecere of

North Providence, Rhode Island, and Tom Medugno of Merrimack, New Hampshire as Goodwill Ambassadors for 20 years.

The honorees are all repeat visitors of the Divi Aruba All

Inclusive Resort and have been enjoying the island every year for two decades!! The symbolic honorary title is presented in the name of the Minister of Tourism as a token of ap-

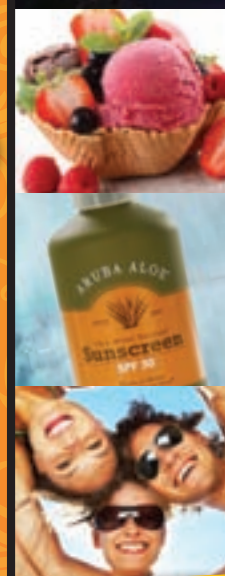
preciation to guests who visit Aruba for 20 or more consecutive years.

The main reasons why they keep coming back to Aruba are the friendly people, the beaches, the beauti-

ful weather, and the local food. The certificate was presented by Darline S. de Cuba representing Aruba Tourism Authority and Francis Ridderstap of the Divi Aruba All Inclusive Resort. □

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CASINO AND SHOPS

Usher To Perform At Curaçao North Sea Jazz!

CURACAO - It has just been announced that 8 time Grammy Award and 17-time Billboard Award winner Usher will perform at the Curaçao North Sea Jazz Festival on Saturday 31 August! With Usher we complete our impressive festival program. We earlier announced Diana Ross, The Roots, Marc Anthony, Toto, Luis Miguel and many others.

Usher has sold over 50 million albums worldwide and was named most successful artist of 2000-2010 by Billboard. His album Confessions (2004) has sold millions of copies and is listed as the best solo-album of that decade. In the U.S., Usher has had no less than nine Hot 100 Number One Hits and seventeen Hot 100 Top Ten singles. Usher has worked with artists such as Beyonce, Alicia Keys, Shakira, Jay-Z and even Enrique Iglesias. Usher

is everywhere, from Broadway to the Super Bowl. He is co-owner of the NBA Cleveland Cavaliers, has his own fragrance line, and a business venture with RBMG (Raymond Braun Media Group), the home base of superstar Justin Bieber. He has realized that with success comes responsibility. Usher has also proven to be a major philanthropic force. Founded in 1999, his New Look Foundation empowers youths to become leaders. In recognition of his achievements, Usher has been honored by the Boys & Girls Clubs of America, the Trumpet Foundation, Do Something, the NAACP, and as the 2010 Ford Freedom Award Scholar. On his critically acclaimed seventh studio album, Looking 4 Myself, Usher has taken bold steps into unexpected musical territory. For this album, Usher worked with a wide range



of producers and artists, including Diplo, Swedish House Mafia, Max Martin, will.i.am, and Empire of the Sun. These cooperations and his own active role as songwriter has lead to an album with electro dance beats combined with that typical Usher R&B, pop and hip-hop sound.

Curaçao North Sea Jazz Festival 2013:

--Friday 30 August:
Sam Cooke stage: Toto - Diana Ross - Marc Anthony
Celia stage: Gladys Knight

- Sonny Rollins - Oumou Sangaré

Sir Duke stage: New Cool Collective - Raphael Saadiq - Erykah Badu

Etta James stage: Kris Berry - Mud Morganfield - Sabrina Starke

And the Hot 8 Brass Band will also play

--Saturday 31 August:

Sam Cooke stage: Luis Miguel - Usher

Celia stage: Paul Anka - Edmar Castaneda - Christian McBride Big Band

Sir Duke stage: Esperanza Spalding Radio Music Soci-

ety - Los Lobos - The Roots
Etta James stage: Pernell Saturnino and Friends featuring Miguel Zenón- Sherry Dyanne - Kizzy McHugh
And the Hot 8 Brass Band will also play
--In the week prior to the festival:

Brionplein on Sunday 25 August - FREE CONCERT of: Israel & New Breed

Brionplein on Monday 26 August - FREE CONCERT of El Gran Combo de Puerto Rico
Brakkeput Mei Mei on Wednesday 28 August: Al Di Meola
Brakkeput Mei Mei on Thursday 29 August: José James

Tickets for the festival can be purchased through 522-JAZZ, the official sales locations and www.ticketmaster.com.

The Curaçao North Sea Jazz Festival is made possible by: Fundashon Bon Intenashon. □

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Merryweather has a love and passion for fishing. A fisherman who knows about fish, what our local waters have to offer, and what the words "fresh seafood" really mean. What Herby catches will be served in his restaurant on the same day. Herby loves to share his fishing passion with the many visitors to the island. His fleet of a 35ft. Twin Engine Bertram yacht and a 50ft. Twin Engine Post yacht, appropriately called "Driftwood I and II, is available for charters on 12 noon and from 1pm to 5pm.



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Driftwood Restaurant. This authentic Aruban seafood restaurant is located in characteristic downtown Oranjestad. Their

extended menu has been jubled by many. Driftwood offers daily specials, as well as a delicious 4-course menu for just \$25.95 **Charter deep sea fishing rates:** \$400 - 1/2 day • \$760 - full day. Rates per boat Max. 6 people. **Driftwood Restaurant** Authentic Aruban Seafood Restaurant; Klipstraat #12, Downtown Oranjestad. Tel: (297) 583 2515 www.driftwoodaruba.com
Open hours: every day, from 5pm till 10:30pm. Sunday Closed.



Detroit Tigers starting pitcher Jose Alvarez throws during the first inning of a baseball game against the Cleveland Indians in Detroit, Sunday, June 9, 2013.

Associated Press

Alvarez, Kelly lead Tigers to 4-1 win over Indians

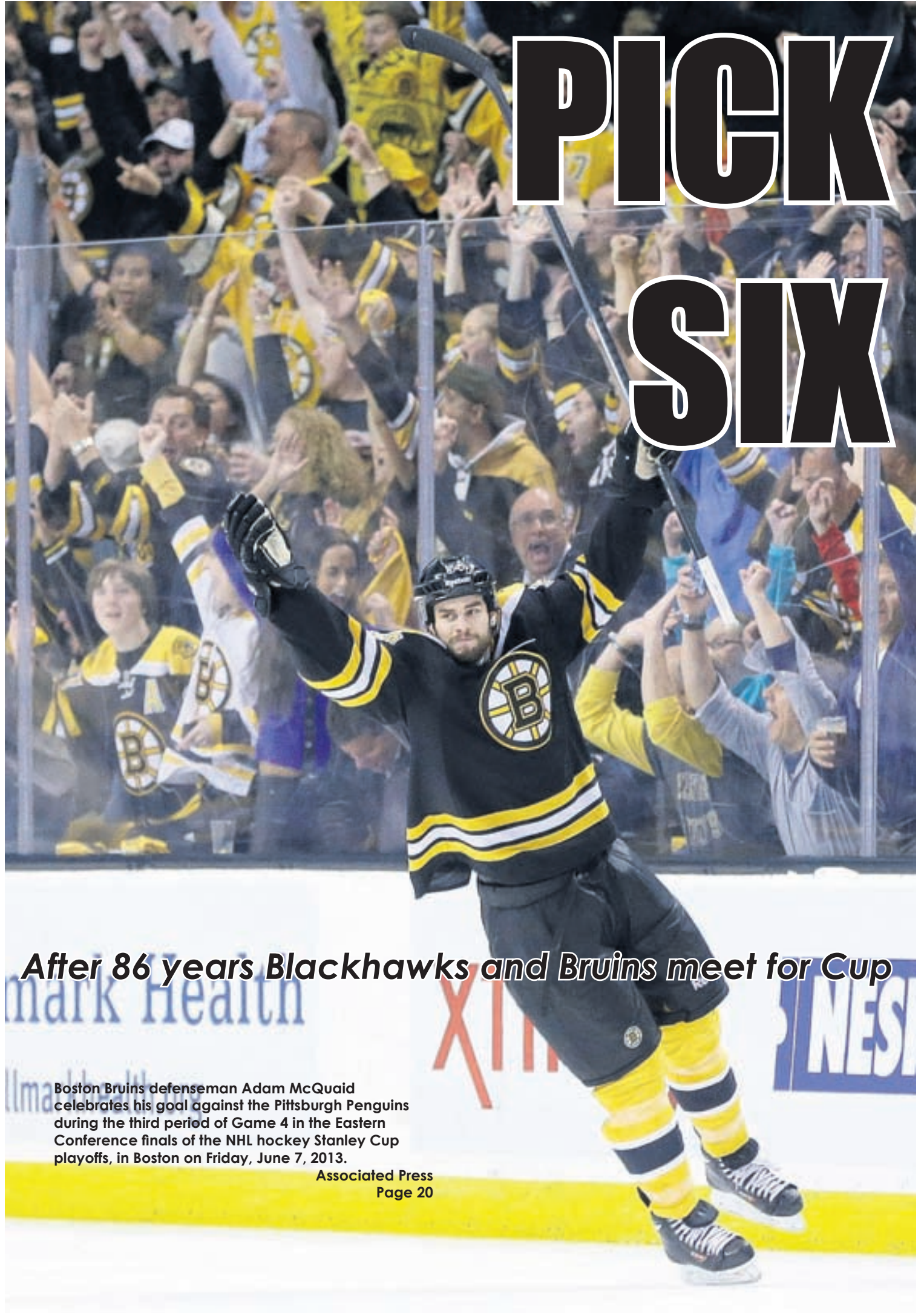
The Associated Press

DETROIT (AP) — Jose Alvarez pitched six impressive innings in his Major League Baseball debut and Don Kelly hit a tiebreaking, three-run homer in the sixth to help the Detroit Tigers finish a three-game sweep of the skidding Cleveland Indians with a 4-1 victory Sunday.

Alvarez (1-0) was starting because of Anibal Sanchez's shoulder tightness, and he held Cleveland hitless until Ryan Raburn's fifth-inning homer. The 24-year-old left-hander allowed three hits and a walk and struck out seven. Drew Smyly pitched two innings of relief and Joaquin Benoit finished for his third save. Cleveland has lost seven straight.

Justin Masterson (8-5) allowed four runs in seven innings. He gave up a walk to Miguel Cabrera and a single to Prince Fielder to start the Detroit sixth. One out later, Kelly lifted a drive over the wall in right.

Continued on Page 20



PICK SIX

After 86 years Blackhawks and Bruins meet for Cup

Boston Bruins defenseman Adam McQuaid celebrates his goal against the Pittsburgh Penguins during the third period of Game 4 in the Eastern Conference finals of the NHL hockey Stanley Cup playoffs, in Boston on Friday, June 7, 2013.

Associated Press
Page 20



Lleyton Hewitt of Australia reacts to his win against Michael Russell of U.S. at the end of their Queen's Club grass court championships first round tennis match in London, Monday, June 10, 2013.

Associated Press

Hewitt rallies past Russell in Queen's 1st round

LONDON (AP) — Former No. 1 Lleyton Hewitt rallied past Michael Russell of the United States 4-6, 6-1, 6-3 in the first round at the Queen's Club on Monday. The Australian has won this Wimbledon warm-up four times as well as the 2001 U.S. Open and 2002 Wimbledon. He has now won 111 matches on grass. Roger Federer leads among current players with 112. Hewitt sent a forehand into the net to drop the opening set. He ran away with the second set after saving six break points in the second game to lead 2-0. After an early exchange of breaks in the decider, Hewitt broke to lead 5-3. "It's always tough, the first one obviously on grass," Hewitt said. "It's a bit slippery under foot and (you) don't probably have quite 100 percent in your footing. "Also, yeah, I just didn't feel like I was serving great. Nothing was sort of ... I didn't have too much rhythm at the start, and the ball was propping a little bit out there as well because it hasn't had a lot of play on it. In the end I found my rhythm a little bit better." □

Australian McCardel eyes swim from Cuba to Florida



Australian swimmer Chloe McCardel reaches for food passed to her by a member of her team as she trains in Havana, Cuba, Monday, June 10, 2013.

Associated Press

ANNE-MARIE GARCIA
Associated Press

HAVANA (AP) — Australian Chloe McCardel will battle exposure, swift sea currents, stinging jellyfish, sharp-toothed sharks and her own physical limits when she attempts a record swim from Cuba to Florida this week. The 29-year-old, who is bidding to become the first person to make the 100-mile (161-kilometer) Straits of Florida crossing without the protection of a shark cage, said Monday that the challenge has great allure for top athletes. "At the moment it's the most high-profile marathon long-distance swim, and swimmers really want to come here and be the first," McCardel said in an interview with The Associated Press. "It's very important; it's like winning a gold medal." American Diana Nyad and Australian Penny Palfrey have attempted the crossing four times between them since 2011, but each

time threw in the towel part way through due to injury, jellyfish stings or strong currents. Australian Susie Maroney did it in 1997, but with a shark cage. Seated on a terrace at the Hemingway Marina in Havana, where she arrived late Sunday, a smiling McCardel said she hopes to help bring Cubans and Americans closer by symbolically bridging the gap. "I would very much love to encourage people to come here as tourists and to engage more with Cuba ... to promote travel and great relations with Cuba," she said. "From what I'm learning it's a very beautiful country, and I feel privileged to have been invited here." Most U.S. travel to Cuba is barred under Washington's 51-year embargo against the island, although Americans are increasingly coming here on legal cultural exchanges and family visits. The two nations have been at odds since shortly after the 1959 Cuban Revolution

ushered in Fidel Castro's Communist-run government, leading to decades of mutual suspicion and bad relations between Washington and Havana. A 32-person support team that includes weather experts and doctors will accompany McCardel on her ocean odyssey, which should last about 55-65 hours if she makes it all the way. Every half-hour or so she plans to pause to eat and down a half-liter of energy drink to stay hydrated. Meanwhile, special equipment will include an electromagnetic field in the water around her that is designed to keep sharks at bay. McCardel, who lives in Melbourne, has been swimming since childhood and also competed in triathlons. According to her website, she has made six solo crossings of the English Channel, two double-crossings in 2010 and 2012 and won the 28.5-mile (46-kilometer) Manhattan Island Mara-

thon Swim in 2010. She's been training for the Havana-Key West swim for the last six months, averaging about 37-56 miles (60-90 kilometers) a week. McCardel said a key to fighting through long-distance swims is focusing on her stroke in an almost meditative way, and remembering those who have supported her back home and around the world. "I need to think very positive, uplifting thoughts," she said. "I'm going to be imagining the finish, imagining how amazing and happy I'll be walking to shore, visualize the people being around ... really being in the moment. So that's a positive thing that I use as a goal to work towards." McCardel is also swimming to raise money to support cancer research, people who suffer from the disease and their families, and promoting the idea that an active, healthy life can help keep it at bay. □

Rafael Nadal drops from 4th to 5th in ATP rankings



Spain's Rafael Nadal, right, and compatriot David Ferrer congratulate each other after the men's final match of the French Open tennis tournament at the Roland Garros stadium Sunday, June 9, 2013 in Paris. Nadal won 6-3, 6-2, 6-3.

Associated Press

PARIS (AP) — Eight-time French Open champion Rafael Nadal drops from No. 4 to No. 5 in the ATP rankings this week, swapping places with David Ferrer, the man he beat in the Roland Garros final. Nadal only retained the ranking points he earned by winning last year's French Open, while Ferrer gained points by reaching his first Grand Slam final. Ferrer joked after his

straight-set loss to Nadal: "I prefer to win here and to stay No. 5." Novak Djokovic remains No. 1 on Monday, followed by No. 2 Andy Murray and No. 3 Roger Federer. French Open champion Serena Williams increased her lead at No. 1 in the WTA rankings, while the runner-up, 2012 winner Maria Sharapova, fell from No. 2 to No. 3, trading spots with Victoria Azarenka. □

Ruling expected in July on NFL concussions lawsuit

PHILADELPHIA (AP) — A federal judge in Philadelphia plans to rule next month on whether former players can sue the National Football League over concussion-related injuries. The NFL wants the complaints handled in arbitration, not in court. Lawyers for more than 4,200 players say in their lawsuits that the league hid the known risks of concussions and rushed players back into the game. Senior U.S. District Judge

Anita Brody says she expects to issue her ruling July 22 on whether the lawsuits can go forward. Brody heard brief arguments in early April from a pair of nationally prominent lawyers, David Frederick for the players and Paul Clement for the league. Many former players say they suffer from dementia, Alzheimer's disease and other neurological conditions and believe that they stem from on-field concussions. □

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Blackhawks, Bruins offer intriguing finals matchup

JAY COHEN

AP Sports Writer

CHICAGO (AP) — Two NHL franchises, rich in history, talent and star power. Two winning teams that know what it takes to bring home a title. Intrigue in the form of a schedule that kept them away from each other for an entire season.

Oh, there's plenty to love about these Stanley Cup finals.

The series kicks off Wednesday when the Chicago Blackhawks host the Boston Bruins in the first finals matchup of "Original Six" teams that made up the league from 1942-1967 since Montreal beat the New York Rangers way back in 1979.

The mighty Blackhawks, winners of seven of the last eight games, have a deep roster that really found its identity when pushed to the limit by the Detroit Red Wings in the second round of the playoffs. Then there are the playoff-tested Bruins, who rolled over favored Pittsburgh during an impressive sweep that gave them a chance for a second NHL title in three seasons.

The matchup couldn't be more perfect for a league still trying to recover from a bitter lockout that wiped out 510 games and pushed



Chicago Blackhawks defenseman Brent Seabrook celebrates with his teammate after scoring a game winning goal during the overtime in Game 7 of the NHL hockey Stanley Cup Western Conference semifinals against the Detroit Red Wings, Wednesday, May 29, 2013, in Chicago. Blackhawks won 2-1.

Associated Press

the start of the season back to Jan. 19.

"The tradition of the Bruins and the Hawks is special," Blackhawks coach Joel Quenneville said.

"I'm sure, you know, the rivalry could return instantly come Game 1. I think it's good for the league. It's good for hockey. Two great hockey markets.

We're very excited to be a part of it."

Chicago advanced with a 4-3 double-overtime victory over Los Angeles on Saturday, using a hat trick from Patrick Kane to eliminate the defending champion Kings in five games in the Western Conference finals. Back in the Stanley Cup series for the first time since

2010, the Blackhawks are in search of another title to pair with their six-game victory over the Philadelphia Flyers three years ago.

"Everyone has that drive to win the Cup," Chicago forward Andrew Shaw said. "It's going to be a long road ahead here. It's surreal. I've wanted this since I was a kid. I'm excited to get started."

Boston is rolling again after losing its spot atop the NHL's Northeast Division in the final days of the regular season. The Bruins have won five in a row and nine of 10, boosted by a familiar group of stars who led the way when they won the championship in 2011. David Krejci scored four times in the Pittsburgh sweep and leads Boston with nine goals and 12 assists in the playoffs.

"The excitement is there," Bruins coach Claude Julien said Sunday. "You've heard people say, 'Once you've been there, you want to go back.' It's true, we really want to go back; we made it happen. We're excited about it and we also know what kind of challenge lies ahead for us. It's about acknowledging that and being ready for it."

While Boston and Chicago have kept an eye

on each other for a while now, there's no way for either team to know what to expect at the start of the series. That's because the lockout-shortened schedule included no games between teams from opposing conferences.

That's right, the Bruins and Blackhawks haven't played since Oct. 15, 2011, when Boston won 3-2 in a shootout in Chicago. There are no mutual opponents this year, not even an All-Star game to compare the players from each conference.

"I think all the information is out there for both teams to understand how we both play," Julien said.

"There's no secrets there. Again, like I said, it's only the head to head, how the two teams are kind of going to clash, what's going to happen when we do. It's as simple as that."

"It's about having confidence in what you plan on doing and going out there and executing it, that's all you can do."

The Bruins were on the brink of elimination when they trailed Toronto 4-1 with less than 11 minutes left in the third period of Game 7 in the first round of the playoffs. But they managed to beat the Maple Leafs 5-4 in overtime. □

AL Capsules

Continued from Page 17

The first-place Tigers lead Cleveland by 5½ games in the American League Central division.

RED SOX 10, ANGELS 5

BOSTON (AP) — David Ortiz hit a three-run homer and Jarrod Saltalamacchia connected twice to power Boston past Los Angeles. Saltalamacchia and Mike Carp went deep on consecutive pitches from Joe Blanton (1-10) in the sixth inning, moments after Ryan Dempster (4-6) got his 2,000th career strikeout. The Red Sox took two of three in the series and have won six of eight.

Los Angeles entered the weekend having won eight straight against the

Red Sox after going 6-0 last season, but dropped the final two games after winning the opener of a day-night doubleheader Saturday.

Albert Pujols and Alberto Callaspo each hit a solo homer for the Angels.

Dempster gave up three runs in six innings. Ortiz has five homers and 14 RBIs in his last 10 games.

YANKEES 2, MARINERS 1

SEATTLE (AP) — Chris Stewart hit a tiebreaking single in the ninth inning and David Phelps matched Felix Hernandez for six innings to help New York beat Seattle.

Ichiro Suzuki drew a walk from Yoervis Medina (1-2) to open the ninth and Jayson Nix sacrificed. With two outs, Stewart bounced a



Boston Red Sox designated hitter David Ortiz congratulates teammate Jarrod Saltalamacchia (39) after he hit a three-run home run scoring him and Mike Napoli (12) during the seventh inning of a baseball game against the Los Angeles Angels, Sunday, June 9, 2013 at Fenway Park in Boston.

Associated Press

grounders through the left side and Suzuki scored easily against his former team to help the Yankees take three of four at Safeco Field.

Mariano Rivera allowed two hits and a walk in the ninth but earned his 23rd save in 24 opportunities, extending his career record to 631.

David Robertson (4-1) worked out of an eighth-inning jam and Brett Gardner had four hits and an RBI.

ORIOLES 10, RAYS 7

ST. PETERSBURG, Florida (AP) — J.J. Hardy, Adam Jones, Alexi Casilla and Nick Markakis had two RBIs apiece as Baltimore battered eight-game winner Matt Moore in beating Tampa Bay. □

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Satisfied but shaken, Spurs bring NBA Finals home

BRIAN MAHONEY

AP Basketball Writer

SAN ANTONIO (AP) — Tim Duncan, Tony Parker and Manu Ginobili sat in mostly stunned silence, all that playoff experience not preparing them for how they felt after two games. The San Antonio Spurs had taken home-court advantage away from the Miami Heat, but then the reigning champions took them apart.

So as they prepared to bring the NBA Finals back home for the first time in seven years, the veterans struggled with how they were supposed to sum up their situation.

Winning one in South Florida was an accomplishment, but nothing that provided them any momentum after the Heat's 103-84 victory Sunday in Game 2. "Not after tonight. I think they regained that," Duncan said. "Obviously we were glad to win a game here in Game 1. Our goal was to get two. But they got the one tonight. We got to go back home. We got a game here. We have three at home, so we're excited about that. But if we play like we did tonight, that's not going to matter." The teams took Monday off, with the series resuming Tuesday. The Spurs will also host Game 4 on Thursday and Game 5 on Sunday. The finals were once as much a part of June as the heat in this city deep in the heart of Texas. San Antonio won four titles in a nine-year span starting in 1999, but hasn't hosted a game in the NBA's championship round since the Spurs took a 2-0 lead over LeBron James and Cleveland in 2007.

Here comes James again, needing to win one here



Members of the San Antonio Spurs sit on the bench during the second half of Game 2 of the NBA Finals basketball game against the Miami Heat, Sunday, June 9, 2013 in Miami. The Miami Heat won 103-84.

Associated Press

— which hasn't been easy for Miami — and not concerned that the finals' 2-3-2 format now gives the advantage to the Spurs.

"It doesn't matter," he said. "Two best teams in the NBA at this point. Both teams have won and can win on each other's floor. So it's not a biggie."

The Heat are just 3-22 in San Antonio, though they did win this year even while James, Dwyane Wade and Mario Chalmers sat out the late-season meeting.

James had no cause for concern after Game 2, which validated his belief that he can depend on his teammates until he gets rolling, as he did late in the third quarter and well into the fourth.

But a little doubt seemed to creep into the Spurs' Big Three, unusual for a group that has been there, done that.

Duncan, Parker and Ginobili have teamed for 99 postseason victories together, second-most in

NBA history, a trio that is well aware of how quickly things can change in the playoffs.

They changed really quickly in this series, about the time it took James to turn Tiago Splitter's dunk attempt into a forever finals highlight with a blocked shot.

"Of course if you look at the result, being 1-1, it's not bad. But you don't want to play like this in an NBA Finals," Ginobili said. "You don't want to give them that much confidence, and you feeling bad about yourself."

Duncan was admittedly awful in Game 2, shooting 3 of 13 for nine points. Parker offset his five baskets in 14 attempts with five turnovers, and Ginobili had three of the Spurs' 17 turnovers that led to 19 points. The Spurs, like every other team in the NBA, know that there's no way to beat the Heat with that kind of ball handling.

"We have to play bet-

ter. Definitely have to play better," Parker said. "You know, we're playing the defending champs. They're a great team. We knew they were going to come in and play with a lot more energy and play

harder. That's what they did tonight.

"So it's always easy to bounce back after a loss, and now it's our turn to see how we're going to handle our loss and how we're going to respond."

Big Three against Big Three provided plenty of buildup to the series, and Ginobili said the Spurs stand little chance of winning if their trio plays poorly.

But James, having seen the Heat not have enough when they were largely just he, Wade and Chris Bosh two years ago, insists his current team is deep enough to do big damage even when it doesn't come from the big names.

"I think the supporting cast is really why both teams are here," James said. "They've been making an impact all year long, and they feel like their supporting cast is better. We feel like our supporting cast is better. It's who goes out and do it each and every night to help seal wins." □

Will Nadal, Williams be unbeatable at Wimbledon?

HOWARD FENDRICH

AP Tennis Writer

PARIS (AP) — Right now, French Open champions Rafael Nadal and Serena Williams are as good as it gets in tennis.

The next time we see them competing, at Wimbledon in two weeks, Nadal will be merely a serious contender, while Williams will be the unquestioned favorite.

Both have a won-loss record of 43-2 in 2013. Nadal has won 22 matches in a row. Williams has won 31 straight, the longest single-season run on the women's tour in 13 years.

Nadal's Grand Slam title

total now stands at 12, tied with Roy Emerson for the third-most in the history of the men's game, behind only Roger Federer's 17 and Pete Sampras' 14.

Williams is up to 16 major singles trophies, sixth-best among women, with Chris Evert and Martina Navratilova right above her on the list at 18. Now comes the shift from the clay of Roland Garros to the grass of Wimbledon, and that is where the similarities end. Williams is a five-time champion at the All England Club, including a year ago, and the way she's playing at the moment. □

Personal Health:

Swimming and the effects of the fear factor

JANE E. BRODY

© 2013 New York Times

Annalyn Barbier's daughter was 6 years old and a nonswimmer when she was invited to spend a week at a friend's home, which had a pool. Barbier wanted her daughter to be able to save herself if she landed in the water. So Barbier, herself an avid swimmer, signed the child up for lessons at a high school near their Brooklyn home. She had no idea how much her daughter feared the water.

"She screamed and cried and absolutely refused to go," Barbier recalled. "But I told her I paid for the lessons, so I'm going there to watch, and I walked out the door."

Having never before stayed alone, the child followed, yelling "I hate you" and insisting that she would not get in the pool. But the instructor, who seemed to thrive on tough cases, took her and another equally terrified girl into the water together while Barbier sat where her daughter could see her.

Both children finished the course without further incident. Barbier said her

daughter, who is now 14, likes to go in the water and can swim well enough to hold her own.

Like Barbier, I consider swimming an essential life skill, more important to survival than anything children learn in school. Even if children never go swimming, they should know how to swim, because they can fall into water at any time. There are water hazards everywhere - not just at public and private beaches and pools, but also at lakes, ponds, water parks and backyards equipped with so-called kiddie pools. A small child can drown in just two feet of water. The Consumer Product Safety Commission has reported that from 2004 to 2006, 47 children died after becoming submerged in inflatable pools. A small child leaning over the soft side of such a pool can easily fall in head-first and be unable to stand up quickly enough.

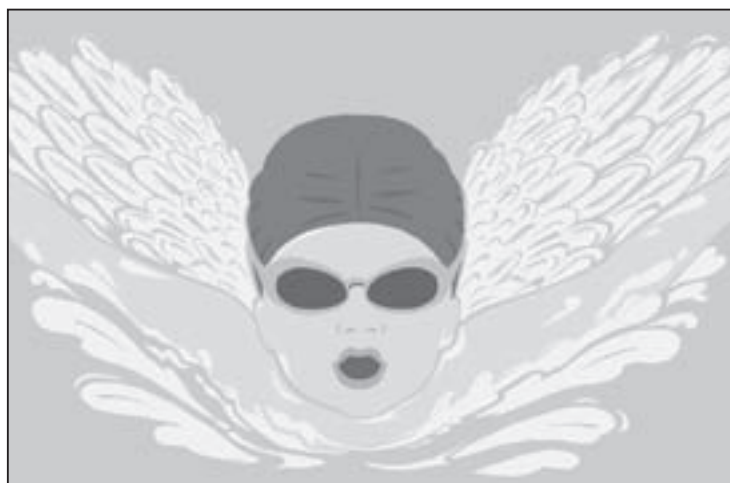
Even if drowning were not an issue, swimming is an activity that exercises the entire body and can be pursued throughout life. My 93-year-old aunt, Eleanor Diamond, who can barely walk, still swims laps

several times a week in a pool across the street from the assisted living facility in which she resides.

Huge numbers of children are unable to swim, which largely explains why drowning is the second-leading

Furthermore, very young children who are comfortable in water are likely to be easier to teach to swim when they are ready to learn formal strokes.

According to the USA Swimming Foundation,



With drowning a leading cause of death among children 1 to 19, some consider learning to swim an important key to survival. (Yvetta Fedorova/The New York Times)

cause of death among children ages 1 to 19. Three years ago, the American Academy of Pediatrics updated its policy, reinforcing its advice that children ages 4 and older should learn to swim but also noting that children ages 1 to 4 are less likely to drown if they have had formal swimming lessons.

about 70 percent of black children, 60 percent of Latino children and 40 percent of white children are nonswimmers. Lack of access and financial constraints account only partly for these numbers. Fear, cultural factors and even cosmetic issues play a role as well.

"Before the Civil War, more

blacks than whites could swim," Lynn Sherr, the author of "Swim: Why We Love the Water," said in an interview. "There are many stories of shipwrecks in which black slaves rescued their owners."

But as Sherr learned from Bruce Wigo of the International Swimming Hall of Fame, segregation destroyed the aquatic culture of the black community.

"Once whites discovered swimming, blacks were increasingly excluded from public pools and life-guarded beaches," Wigo told her. As a result, many minority parents never learned how to swim. Adults who can't swim often fear the water and, directly or indirectly, convey that fear to their children.

A second-grade teacher I know who takes her class to the local Y for swimming lessons said one mother refused to give permission for her son to go "because he's afraid of the water." The teacher rightly responded that was all the more reason the boy should join his class at the pool.

Cullen Jones, an Olympic gold medalist and record-setting swimmer, nearly became a drowning statistic at age 5 when he was thrown from his inner tube at a water park and remained submerged for 30 seconds. He was saved by resuscitation, after which his parents insisted that he learn to swim.

Through USA Swimming's Make a Splash campaign, Jones, who is black, now tours the country encouraging minority children to learn to swim and convincing their parents of the importance of providing lessons.

Parents are not always the best teachers, especially for children who are afraid of the water, although a parent should be present and visible to the child during formal swimming lessons.

Try to find instruction best suited to your child's comfort zone in water. □

Avastin's effectiveness against brain cancer challenged

ANDREW POLLACK

© 2013 New York Times

CHICAGO - Two new studies have found that the widely used cancer drug Avastin does not prolong the lives of patients with a deadly form of brain cancer, raising questions about the role of the drug in treating that disease.

The results, presented at a conference last week, could lead the Food and Drug Administration to revoke Avastin's approval for the treatment of the brain cancer, called glioblastoma, much as it did with the drug's approval for breast cancer.

Avastin, which is sold by Genentech, received a sort of conditional approval in 2009 for the treatment of brain cancer and in 2008

for breast cancer.

In 2011, after subsequent studies showed that Avastin did not help women with breast cancer live longer, the agency revoked the drug's approval for that disease, provoking an outcry from some patients and doctors who said that the drug had helped them. Revocation seems less likely for brain cancer treatment because fewer options are available than for breast cancer.

"The vast majority of patients with glioblastoma in the United States get Avastin at some point in their illness," said Dr. Mark R. Gilbert of the University of Texas MD Anderson Cancer Center, the lead investigator in one of the studies,

which were presented at the annual meeting of the American Society of Clinical Oncology.

Dr. Richard Pazdur, who runs the cancer drug division at the FDA, said that he could not comment on specific drugs, but that the agency considers "the totality of the evidence." He added, "We have approved a lot of drugs without a survival advantage." The brain cancer study led by Gilbert, which was sponsored by the National Cancer Institute, involved 637 patients with newly diagnosed glioblastoma. Those who also received Avastin lived a median of 15.7 months compared with 16.1 months for those who received a placebo. Use of Avastin delayed the time

before tumors worsened by about three months, but that difference was not statistically significant.

A separate study, sponsored by Genentech, also showed virtually identical median survival for Avastin and the control group. But the drug delayed tumor worsening by more than four months, a statistically significant difference. Genentech's study found that Avastin improved patients' quality of life, which could be important to retaining that approval. But Gilbert's study, using a different analysis method, found that Avastin increased the burden of symptoms and led to a greater decline in cognition. □

Apple offers music streaming service, iTunes Radio

BARBARA ORTUTAY

AP Technology Writer

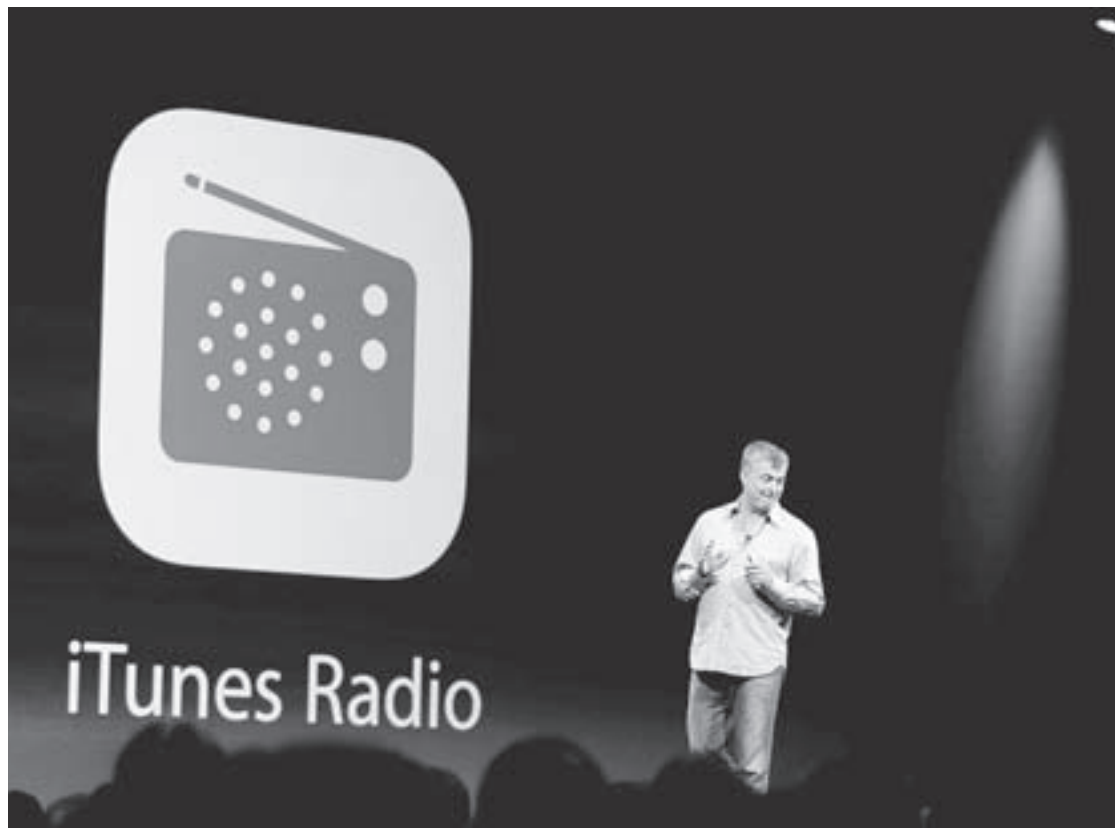
NEW YORK (AP) — Apple unveiled a long-expected Internet radio service called iTunes Radio on Monday and said it will personalize listeners' music based on what they've listened to and what they've purchased on iTunes.

Apple said iTunes Radio will be available this year in the U.S. It will be free with advertisements included, although subscribers of Apple's iTunes Match music-storage service will get a commercial-free version. That service costs \$25 a year. In unveiling the service at its Worldwide Developers Conference in San Francisco, Apple enters a crowded field. Google Inc. started an on-demand subscription music service called All Access last month. Other leading services include Spotify, Rhapsody and Pandora. Apple was a pioneer of online music sales and is still a leader there, but streaming services such as Pandora and Spotify have emerged as popular alternatives. Pandora relies on its users being connected to the Internet at all times and plays songs at random within certain genres for free. As with Pandora, iTunes Radio will let people create stations based on specific songs, artists or genres. Users can put in a particular song, and the station will play songs like it. Apple did not provide details on how the other songs will be determined. Pandora uses a formula to analyze songs based on musical and other characteristics.

Users won't be able to type in the name of a specific song and have it play right away. Pandora doesn't allow that either. That's something available through other services that charge monthly fees, including Spotify and Google's All Access.

Analysts were lukewarm.

"This is a nice free feature that lots of people will probably try out, but existing Pandora users won't have much reason to



Eddy Cue the Apple senior vice president of Internet Software and Services introduces the new iTunes Radio during the keynote address of the Apple Worldwide Developers Conference Monday, June 10, 2013 in San Francisco.

The Associated Press

switch," Jan Dawson, chief telecoms analyst at Ovum, said in an emailed comment.

Dawson said a service that lets people call up specific songs on demand would have made a bigger

splash, "but that would likely have disrupted Apple's existing iTunes business, and the music industry as a whole, too much."

Pandora charges \$36 a year for ad-free listening, more than Apple at \$25.

Pandora also has a free, ad-supported version like iTunes Radio. In February, Pandora capped free listening on mobile devices to 40 hours per month. Apple did not say whether its service would have any

limits. iTunes Radio will also offer featured stations, which play songs that are the most-talked about on Twitter, for example.

The service integrates Apple's Siri virtual assistant so that users can get information by speaking questions such as "Who plays that song?" Users can also tell Siri to skip songs, stop or pause playing. And they can ask to play more songs like the one currently playing, or buy them on iTunes with a click, Apple said. Pandora also lets listeners purchase songs, through either iTunes or Amazon.

Apple said iTunes Radio will be built into iOS 7, the new software for iPhones, iPads and iPod Touches. That's coming this fall. It will also work with Apple's iTunes software on Mac and Windows computers.

Pandora investors did not seem concerned about the potential Apple competition. The company's stock rose 37 cents, or 2.5 percent, to close at \$15.49 following the afternoon announcement. It added another 12 cents in extended trading. □

AT&T launches push-to-talk service for iPhone

PETER SVENSSON

AP Technology Writer

NEW YORK (AP) — AT&T Inc. on Monday said it's adding a walkie-talkie-like application to the iPhone for its corporate customers, replicating a hallmark feature of the Nextel network, which is being shut down this summer.

A push-to-talk feature is available on some non-Nextel phones from Sprint, Verizon and AT&T, but this is the first time it's available on the iPhone in the U.S.

With push-to-talk systems, the user pushes a button to broadcast a voice message to a group — in the case of the AT&T app, of up to 250 people. This type of service has been popu-

lar for work sites and first responders.

Sprint is shutting down the Nextel network this summer because it doesn't support high-speed data traffic. It's trying to get as many Nextel users as possible to switch to Sprint phones with push-to-talk capability, but it's competing with Verizon Wireless and AT&T.

Dallas-based AT&T said the push-to-talk function won't work just by downloading the app — the company has to work with its corporate customers to integrate it.

AT&T shares rose 40 cents to \$35.85 in morning trading. Its shares have traded in a 52-week range of \$32.71 to \$39. □



An AT&T customer tries out an Apple iPhone 4 at an AT&T store in Palo Alto, Calif., in this Jan. 11, 2011 file photo.

Associated Press

S&P upgrades US outlook, but investors unimpressed

C. REXRODE

AP Business Writer

NEW YORK (AP) — The Standard & Poor's ratings agency said Monday it's getting more optimistic about the U.S. economy. But investors just yawned. Stocks budged higher when trading opened, shortly after the S&P agency raised its outlook for the U.S. government's debt rating and credited "the strengths of the economy." But the gains proved both modest and fickle, and the market spent most of the day flitting between small gains and losses.

At day's end, the Dow Jones industrial average and the S&P 500 were lower, but just barely. The Nasdaq composite was slightly higher. It was a marked change from Friday, when the Dow jumped 207 points after a jobs report that investors viewed as positive. Trading volume was light, and there were no major economic reports or company announcements. The 10 industry sectors in the S&P were split down the middle, with half rising

and half falling, but none moved dramatically. The best performer, telecommunications, was up 0.8 percent. The worst, consumer discretionary, was down 0.3 percent.

The Dow closed down 9.53 points at 15,238.59, a loss of 0.06 percent. The S&P 500 index was essentially flat, falling 0.57 point to 1,642.81, or 0.03 percent. The Nas-

daq composite edged up 4.55 points to 3,473.77, a gain of 0.1 percent.

Booz Allen Hamilton slid after a company employee said he had leaked information about secret government surveillance programs. The consulting company's stock dropped 46 cents, or 2.6 percent, to \$17.54.

The S&P's statement har-

kened back to August 2011, when the agency slashed its rating of the U.S. government's debt because Congress was in a heated battle over whether to raise government spending limits. The downgrade, an embarrassment to the U.S., also sent the stock market into a tailspin. The Dow plunged 634 points, or more than 5 percent, on the first trading

day after the downgrade. The market had triple-digit swings throughout that fall. On Monday, S&P upgraded its outlook on the U.S. debt rating to "Stable" from "Negative." That doesn't restore the U.S. government's top-shelf credit rating, but it does mean that S&P is unlikely to cut the rating again in the near future.

S&P cited the Federal Reserve's willingness to keep interest rates low, which is meant to spur borrowing and spending, and its bond purchasing program, which is meant to encourage investors to buy stocks and other riskier assets. S&P also noted approvingly that Congress had agreed to raise some taxes this year, notably the Social Security tax that most workers pay, which has helped shrink the government's budget deficit.

The reaction from investors was a far cry from two summers ago. Some doubted the S&P's assessment that the economy is improving, and said the Fed is only artificially propping it up.

Ed Butowsky, managing partner of Chapwood Investments in Dallas, said that the unemployment rate is still too high, economic growth too weak and the government's budget deficit too heavy for the economy to be considered healthy.

"It defies economic logic as to why the S&P did this," Butowsky said.

"...We continue to print money, we continue to spend money. What are they looking at?"

Others agreed with the S&P's assessment, but said it was old news.

Jerry Webman, chief economist at OppenheimerFunds in New York, thinks the economy is strong enough to drive sustainable earnings growth, but not so strong that the Fed might pull the plug on its stimulus measures — a sentiment that seemed to drive Friday's rally. Still, he thinks investors shouldn't draw too many conclusions from a single S&P report. □



Trader Kevin Colter works on the floor of the New York Stock Exchange, Monday, June 10, 2013. The stock market ended the day sideways as traders showed only mild enthusiasm for an improving outlook for the U.S. government's credit rating.

(AP Photo/Richard Drew)

Japan's Nikkei outperforms as growth revised up

PAN PYLAS

AP Business Writer

LONDON (AP) — An upward revision to Japanese growth helped the country's Nikkei stock index surge Monday while markets elsewhere settled down following last week's better-than-expected U.S. jobs data.

The Nikkei soared 4.9 percent to 13,514.20 after the first-quarter growth rate of the world's number 3 economy was revised up from an annualized rate of 3.5 percent to 4.1 percent. The Nikkei's rise more or less made up for the retreat suffered by Japanese stocks last week, but the scale of the advance shows just how volatile the index has become.

After a stellar first few months of the year, which sent the Nikkei up to five-year highs, the index has become increasingly vola-

tile and lost over 6 percent of its value last week.

The key consideration for investors is whether the big monetary stimulus announced at the start of this year by the Bank of Japan to get the country out of its two-decade stagnation will work.

The policy, which is designed to double Japan's monetary base and get inflation up to 2 percent, is a cornerstone of the economic recovery plan promised by Prime Minister Shinzo Abe.

"Overall this helped provide evidence that Shinzo Abe's Abenomic policies are having a tangible impact upon the economy and that there is perhaps more credence given to the rally in equities within the economy given the longer term outlook provided by a successful policy set," said Joshua Mahony,

research analyst at Alpari. Elsewhere, last Friday's U.S. payrolls figures, which showed 175,000 jobs added in May, remained the focus and contributed to a steady tone in trading in Europe and the U.S.

In Europe, the FTSE 100 index of leading British shares edge down 0.2 percent to 6,400.45 while Germany's DAX rose 0.6 percent to 8,307.69. The CAC-40 in France fell 0.2 percent to 3,864.36.

In the U.S., the Dow Jones industrial average was up 0.1 percent at 15,270.69 while the broader S&P 500 index was up 0.2 percent 1,646.68. The news that ratings agency Standard & Poor's was revising up its outlook on the U.S. economy to "stable" from "negative" supported markets.

With no scheduled U.S. economic data Monday, investors continue to di-

gest the payrolls numbers. Though the increase was a little higher than forecasts, it wasn't so high as to prompt investors to price in the prospect of an imminent change in U.S. monetary policy. Over recent weeks, investors have grown fearful that the Federal Reserve will reduce the amount of financial assets it buys in the markets — so-called tapering.

"These were not figures that would have been taken as being particularly positive for risk assets a few weeks ago but they were probably in the range of 'not too hot, not too cold' which was a relief for the markets," said Gary Jenkins, managing director of Swordfish Research. "Not strong enough to encourage the Fed to begin tapering anytime soon but not so cold as to lead to concerns about the economy slowing." □

Elan rejects Royalty bid, to evaluate more offers

The Associated Press

The board of directors of the Irish drugmaker Elan Corp. PLC on Monday rejected an increased offer from Royalty Pharma and says it has received unsolicited interest from other parties it didn't name.

Royalty's latest offer last week was for \$13 per share plus up to \$2.50 per share in payments based on performance milestones. That offer totaled about \$7.76 billion not counting the milestone payments.

Royalty previously offered \$12.50 per share for Elan and was rejected. Elan went to court to block the bid, but said Monday it dropped the lawsuit after Royalty made additional disclosures. Royalty, based in New York, is a privately held company that buys royalty interests in drugs.

Dublin-based Elan also said Monday that it will evaluate other inquiries about the company and has hired Citigroup to coordinate discussions of whether those proposals fully value the company. It did not give details about the inquiries.

Elan in April sold its interest in the multiple sclerosis treatment Tysabri to former development partner Biogen Idec Inc. That deal was worth \$3.25 billion in cash and recurring royalty payments.

Elan has also begun a move to diversify its business through a string of acquisitions, and Royalty has made shareholder rejection of those deals a condition for completing its acquisition offer.

Those moves, which will be voted on by Elan shareholders June 17, include acquiring a share of the royalties for four respiratory drugs from Theravance Inc., as well as acquiring AOP Orphan, an Austrian developer of treatment for rare diseases or diseases for which there are few treatments. □

McDonald's says cheap eats helped lift sales

NEW YORK (AP) — Cheap eats and new menu items helped McDonald's boost a key sales figure in May, bouncing back from a decline the previous month.

The world's biggest hamburger chain said Monday that global sales rose 2.6 percent at restaurants open at least a year, helped by an extra Friday

percent, as declines in Germany and France were offset by strong results in the United Kingdom and Russia.

The figure edged up 0.9 percent in the region encompassing Asia, the Middle East and Africa. The company, which has more than 34,000 restaurants around the world, noted

as it faces changing eating habits and weak growth in the broader restaurant industry. Late last year, the company reported a decline in the monthly sales figure for the first time in nearly a decade. Soon after, it ousted the head of its U.S. division and renewed its focus on value and refreshing its menu.

for profit margins but the company says it's necessary to steal market share, given the weak growth in the broader restaurant industry.

Its aggressive focus on value has forced competitors to respond. Burger King and Wendy's, which had been working on improving the image of their food, have switched gears to step up marketing on deals. Subway, which is privately held and doesn't report sales figures, also recently introduced a deal for a \$4 lunch combo.

Even as they tout cheap eats, however, traditional fast-food chains including McDonald's are trying to change the image of their food to reflect shifting eating habits.

McDonald's chicken wraps, which were introduced in late March, are intended to attract people in their 20s and 30s who want fresher foods. The wraps should cost around \$4 a piece and help boost margins, following the introductory period during which chains typically offer steep discounting. □

Delicious starts right here.



Cheap eats and new menu items helped McDonald's boost a key sales figure in May, bouncing back from a decline the previous month.

(Handout Photo)

in the month. In the U.S., the figure rose 2.4 percent, as the Dollar Menu and its new chicken wraps and egg white breakfast sandwiches lifted results.

In Europe, the figure rose 2

percent, that results in China were negative because of fears about avian flu.

McDonald's Corp. based in Oak Brook, Illinois, has been struggling to increase sales

Specifically, the company is trying to attract customers by touting its Dollar Menu and other promotions, such as two Big Macs for the price of one. Some analysts say the strategy is bad

AirAsia X eyes \$275 million in share sale

KUALA LUMPUR, Malaysia (AP) — Malaysia's long-haul budget carrier AirAsia X said Monday it hopes to raise up to \$275 million in the country's biggest share sale this year to repay debts and fund its expansion.

The airline in its prospectus said the estimated proceeds were based on an indicative price of 1.45 ringgit (46 cents) per share for 592.6 million new shares in its initial public offering. The final price will be set on June 24, ahead of its listing on July 10.

Tony Fernandes, who heads affiliate AirAsia and also a founder of the long-haul arm, said the listing was testament that the low-cost, long haul airline was pioneering a "break-through business model" that has unlocked new demand and revolutionized travel. He said the airline has one of the world's

lowest operating costs, enabling it to offer fares up to 50 percent cheaper than full service carriers.

"AirAsia X's unique proposition lies in their competitive fares and early mover advantage...we are ex-

panding our group further and this is just the tip of the iceberg," he said in a statement.

The IPO comes amid increased competition as more budget airlines take to the skies to grab a share

of Asia's fast-growing market. Air travel in Asia is expected to grow 6.7 percent annually in the next 20 years, from 780 million passengers in 2010 to some 2.2 billion by 2030. Budget aviation now has a quarter of the air travel market in Asia, and growing.

Brendan Sobie, regional representative based in Singapore for the Centre for Asia Pacific Aviation, said the IPO will boost AirAsia X as it seeks to establish new hubs to strengthen its network.

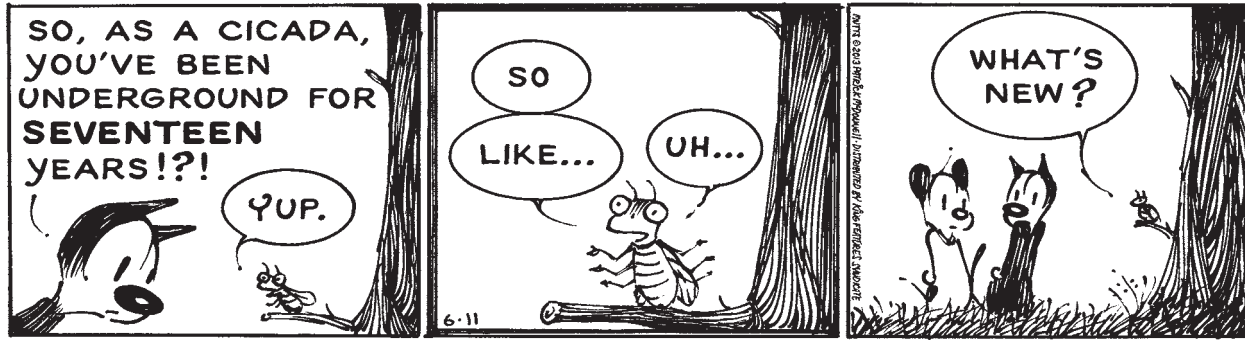
He said some investors are however, skeptical if the long-haul, low-cost model is viable given high fixed costs and fuel prices that are eating into airlines' profitability. AirAsia X axed flights to Europe last year and is focusing on more medium-haul routes in Asia, which is to its advantage, he said. □



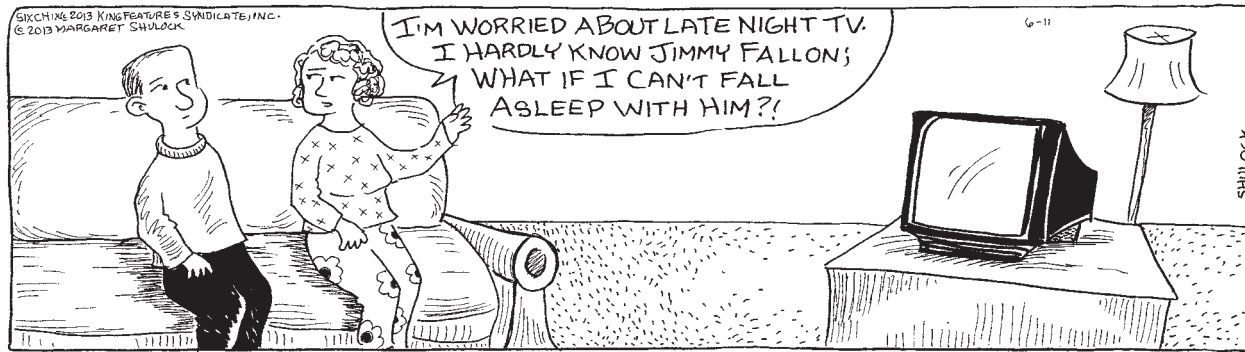
AirAsia X Chief Executive Azran Osman-Rani, fifth from right, holds a newly launched AirAsia X prospectus as he poses with AirAsia Group Chief Executive Tony Fernandes, center, for photographers during its launch in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia, Monday, June 10, 2013.

(AP Photo)

Mutts



6 Chix



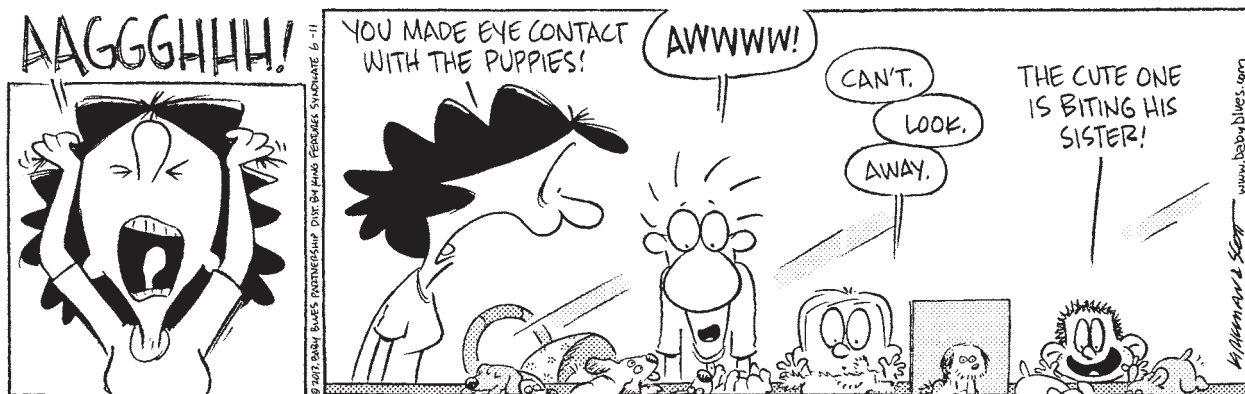
Blondie



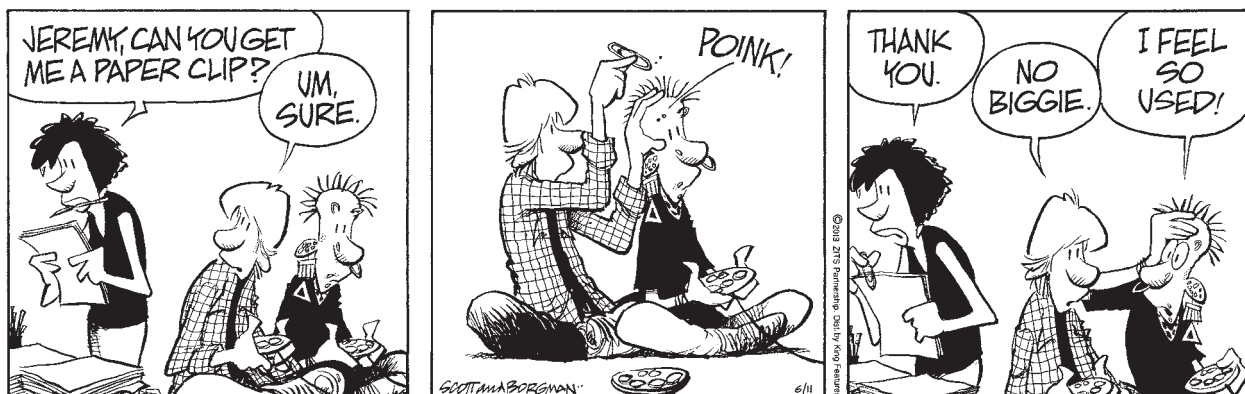
Mother Goose & Grimm



Baby Blues



Zits



Conceptis Sudoku

		7			4		5	
6	8					9	4	
	9			2				8
3			4		2			
		1				4		
			7		1			9
5				4			3	
	1	4					7	6
	7		2			5		

Difficulty Level ★★

6/11

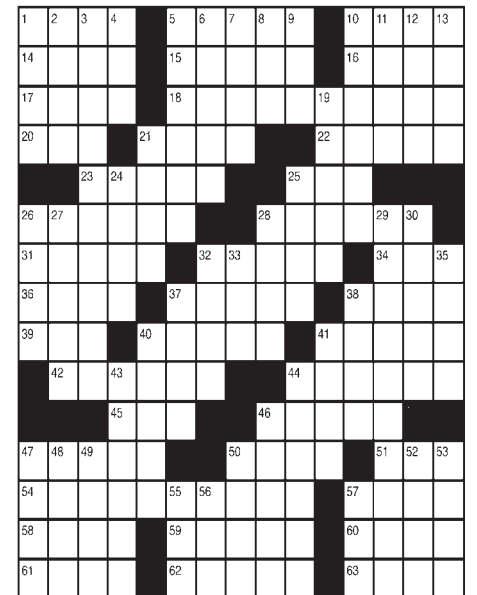
Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Conceptis Sudoku increases from Monday to Sunday.

Yesterday's puzzle answer

3	9	8	4	5	6	7	1	2
1	5	6	7	3	2	4	9	8
7	2	4	1	9	8	5	6	3
5	3	9	8	6	4	1	2	7
4	7	2	3	1	9	8	5	6
8	6	1	5	2	7	3	4	9
9	4	7	6	8	5	2	3	1
6	1	5	2	7	3	9	8	4
2	8	3	9	4	1	6	7	5

ACROSS

- 1 ___ off; left suddenly
- 5 Of Pius X, e.g.
- 10 Still in the sack
- 14 ___ mitts; kitchen wear
- 15 Residence
- 16 ___ pop; soft drink
- 17 Nourish
- 18 Heart doctor's specialty
- 20 Fancy vase
- 21 Select
- 22 Whittles
- 23 Express gratitude to
- 25 Scouting group
- 26 Phony; false
- 28 ___ telepathy; mind reading
- 31 Merits
- 32 Assumed name
- 34 Actress Arthur
- 36 Fail to include
- 37 Fancy ruffle
- 38 Defrost
- 39 Prefix for fat or profit
- 40 Silenced, as the TV volume
- 41 Ordinary writing
- 42 Concurs
- 44 Went off course
- 45 ___ the time; constantly
- 46 Spud
- 47 Knight's weapon
- 50 Part of the eye
- 51 Large flightless Australian bird
- 54 Far-reaching
- 57 African antelopes
- 58 Most common conjunctions
- 59 ___ apso; small long-haired dog
- 60 High point
- 61 Finest
- 62 Song of an Alpine goatherd
- 63 Not as much



Created by Jacqueline E. Mathews

6/11/13

Monday's Puzzle Solved

I	R	E		R	I	D	E	R		S	O	D	A	
R	I	S	E		E	R	O	D	E		E	V	E	N
A	L	P	S		V	O	L	G	A		L	E	A	N
		E	N	C	H	A	N	T	E	D	E	S		
			H	E	M	S			A	B	C			
U	P	K	E	E	P		R	E	B	U	T	T	A	L
T	R	A	W	L		S	E	A	L	S		I	D	O
T	O	T	S		R	I	N	S	E		A	M	O	S
E	V	E		J	E	T	T	I	T	R		I	B	E
R	E	S	E	R	V	E	S		G	I	R	D	E	R
			U	S	E				H	U	L	A		
S	N	A	G			I	N	S	O	L	E	N	C	E
P	A	T	E		L	E	T	U	P		G	O	Y	A
I	R	O	N		L	E	A	S	E		E	V	E	R
T	Y	P	E						E	R	R	E	D	

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6/11/13

DOWN

- 1 Bean curd
- 2 Go ___; review
- 3 Going in again
- 4 Finish
- 5 Actor Al ___
- 6 Taken ___; surprised
- 7 White meat
- 8 ___ up; total
- 9 Luau garland
- 10 Learning
- 11 Rude person
- 12 On ___; tense
- 13 Doris & Dennis
- 19 Unwraps
- 21 Cushions
- 24 Search
- 25 Good buy
- 26 Lowly laborer
- 27 Pago Pago, American ___
- 28 Not at all spicy
- 29 Disgust; hatred
- 30 Contract with a landlord
- 32 ___ and crafts
- 33 Whopper
- 35 Astounded
- 37 Gas or coal
- 38 Maple or oak
- 40 Blends together
- 41 Cats and dogs
- 43 Most unusual
- 44 Property destroyer
- 46 Taunt jokingly
- 47 Q-tip, for one
- 48 Dinner banquet beverage
- 49 Likelihood
- 50 Be ahead of the others
- 52 "___ the word!"
- 53 Does drugs
- 55 Thickness or layer
- 56 Sorority letter
- 57 Four qts.

Book details workplace blind spots between sexes

JESSICA GRESKO
Associated Press

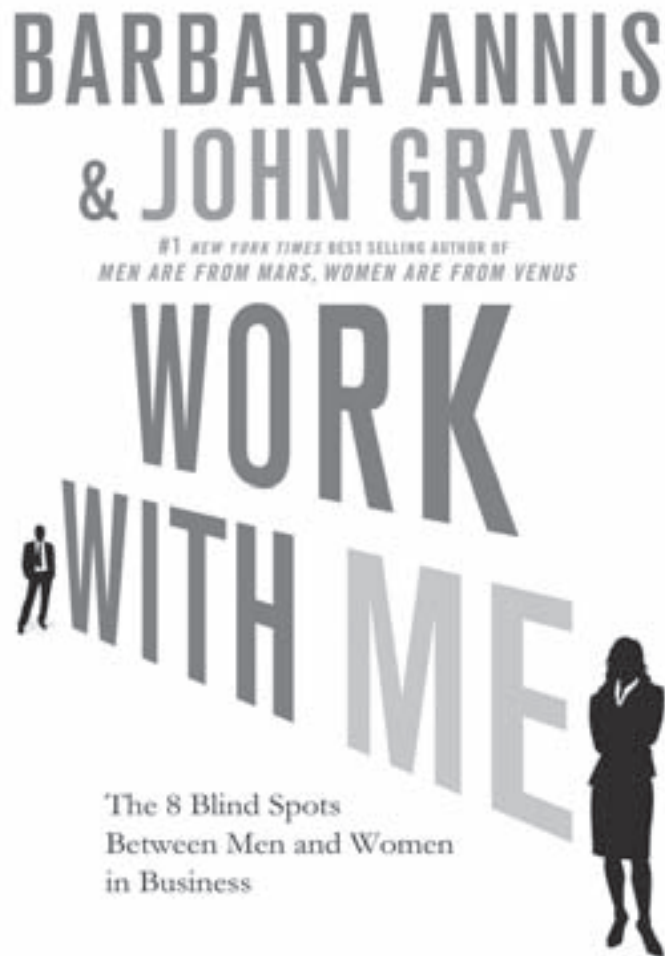
"Work With Me: The 8 Blind Spots Between Men and Women in Business" (Palgrave Macmillan), by Barbara Annis and John Gray Unless you live and work at a monastery, chances are you work with both men and women.

According to Barbara Annis and John Gray, however, we're kind of bumbling when it comes to sharing office space with the opposite sex.

In "Work With Me," the authors explore eight "blind spots" they say create tension between men and women in the workplace. Among them: women's tendency to ask more questions, men's belief they have to walk on eggshells with women, women's feeling they are being excluded and men's belief that women are too emotional. The authors say their objective is to expose and eliminate those blind spots and encourage a more "gender intelligent" workforce. Annis and Gray have some impressive gender intelligence cred themselves.

He's the author of 17 books, including one you've probably heard of: "Men Are From Mars, Women Are From Venus." She runs a company that does workshops and consulting on gender differences in the workplace, including work for Fortune 500 companies. The authors' credentials create some high expectations, and they only heighten those themselves, promising that the book contains (for the first time!) survey results of over 100,000 quantitative and qualitative statements from men and women. You might fairly assume that by the book's end you will be equipped with a set of special gender intelligence goggles that allow you to splendidly navigate working with co-workers of any gender.

Unfortunately, the book suffers from its own blind spots. The authors suggest they're writing for all offices but instead seem to be writing mostly for employ-



This book cover image released by Palgrave Macmillan shows "Work With Me: The 8 Blind Spots Between Men and Women in Business", by Barbara Annis and John Gray.
(AP Photo/Palgrave Macmillan)

ees of massive corporations and offices where women are the minority and not the bosses. Readers who work in smaller offices or in offices with a different gen-

der balance (where women are the boss or a majority of the employees) can expect to feel as though they're reading a book meant for someone else. □

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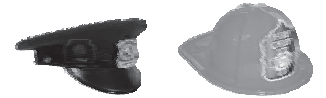
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China marks decade of human spaceflight

CHRISTOPHER BODEEN

Associated Press

BEIJING (AP) — China's astronauts have braved the tension of docking with a space station and performed delicate tasks outside their orbiting capsule, but now face a more down-to-earth job that is perhaps equally challenging: Talking to young people about science.

Three Chinese astronauts will take flight this week, on Tuesday if weather permits, aboard a Shenzhou spacecraft to dock with China's Tiangong 1 space lab. On the heels of Canadian astronaut Chris Hadfield's wildly popular YouTube videos from the International Space Station, the Chinese crew plans to deliver a series of talks to students from aboard the Tiangong. The lectures come as China's human space program enters its second decade, after going from a simple manned flight to space lab link-ups in a series of methodically timed steps in just 10 years. Meanwhile, its American rival, now in its sixth decade of putting people into space, continues its routine work on the International Space Station and long-term plans to go to an asteroid and eventually Mars.

"China is in space for the long haul. The U.S. ignoring that and refusing to work with China will neither stop them nor slow them down," said Joan Johnson-Freese, an expert on the Chinese space program at the U.S. Naval War College.

The Shenzhou 10 spacecraft — its name means "sacred vessel" — is to be launched aboard a Long March 2F rocket, a safer and more reliable version of that used in previous missions. It will transport the crew

for a 12-day stay aboard the Tiangong 1, which functions as an experimental prototype for a much larger Chinese space station to be launched in 2020.

The space classrooms mark the boldest step so far to bring the military-backed program into the lives of



In this June 16, 2012 file image made off the monitor screen at the Beijing Aerospace Flight Control Center and released by China's Xinhua News Agency, China's astronauts Jing Haipeng, center, Liu Wang, left, and Liu Yang sit inside the capsule after the launch of China's manned Shenzhou-9 spacecraft.

Associated Press

ordinary Chinese and follows in the footsteps of NASA, which uses student outreach to inspire interest in space exploration and sustain support for its budgets. Thus far, Chinese astronauts have been paraded before the public at rallies and other events, but they've had almost no genuine interaction with ordinary Chinese.

The three-member team, announced on state media Monday and including one woman, will also conduct tests on the station's docking and life support systems, probing them for possible problems to be corrected in the design for the larger space station.

Although two Chinese spacecraft, one of them crewed, have already docked with the Tiangong, or "heavenly palace," since it was launched in September 2011, China's space program says its space station remains in mint condition.

China launched its first crewed mission, the Shenzhou 5, in October 2003, becoming the third nation after Russia and the U.S. to achieve that feat. The upcoming mission would be China's fifth crewed spaceflight.

Starting in 1992, China has trained a corps of 21 astronauts, including a younger

cadre of seven men and women recruited over the past three years. Shenzhou 10's sole female member is Wang Yaping, a 35-year-old air force pilot whose earlier duties included seeding clouds in an attempt to clear the skies for the 2008 Beijing Summer Olympic Games.

Since the first 2003 manned mission, China has largely replicated the achievements of the U.S. and Russian programs but with updated technology and methodology. A single-man mission was followed by a two-man flight, then a pair of three-person flights, including the Shenzhou 9

that docked with the station and carried China's first female astronaut into orbit.

Though China has conducted fewer launches than the earlier U.S. and Soviet programs, it has recorded greater strides with each one, partly as a result of not having to conquer the great unknowns that challenged those programs.

"They don't have to reinvent the basic technologies for spaceflight," said Morris Jones, an Australian writer and space analyst who monitors the Chinese program.

While the material benefits

of the Chinese program aren't always clear, it has brought China considerable international prestige, stimulated interest in science and engineering programs, and helped the military master new technologies in rocketry and remote guidance systems, Johnson-Freese said.

It also has allowed China to show some technical prowess and break away "from the image of a country that is best at producing knock-off designer shoes and handbags," she said.

The latest mission marks a turning point for the manned space program as it now shifts its target to launching the larger, three-module permanent station, Tiangong 2, seven years from now. The previous two missions to Tiangong 1 were considered experiments. From Shenzhou 10 on, they'll be treated as regular shuttle missions. The future station will weigh about 60 tons, slightly smaller than NASA's Skylab of the 1970s and about one-sixth the size of the 16-nation International Space Station. China was barred from participating in the International Space Station, largely on objections from the United States over political differences and the Chinese program's close links with the military. In the meantime, China is turning its attention to sending a rover to the moon. □

IEA: Energy emissions rose to record high in 2012

KARL RITTER

Associated Press

STOCKHOLM (AP) — The world's energy-related carbon dioxide emissions rose 1.4 percent in 2012 to a record high of 31.6 billion tons, even though the U.S. posted its lowest emissions since the mid-1990s, the International Energy Agency said Monday.

In its annual World Energy Outlook report, the Paris-based IEA said top carbon polluter China had the larg-

est emissions growth last year, up 300 million tons, or 3.8 percent, from 2011. Still, the increase was among the lowest seen in a decade as China continues to invest in renewable energy and energy efficiency.

U.S. emissions dropped 200 million tons, or 3.8 percent, in part due to a switch in power generation from coal to gas, while Europe's emissions declined by 50 million tons, or 1.4 percent, the IEA said.

The agency said the energy sector accounts for about two-thirds of global emissions of CO2 and other greenhouse gases, which scientists say are fueling climate change.

Global climate talks are aimed at keeping the temperature rise below 2 degrees Celsius (3.6 F) compared with pre-industrial levels. The IEA found the world's on track for an increase of 3.6-5.3 C (6.5-9.5 F). □

Cher to perform live on NBC's 'The Voice'

LYNN ELBER

AP Television Writer

LOS ANGELES (AP) — Cher has a date with NBC's "The Voice."

The network said Monday the pop star will perform live on the talent contest's June 18 season finale.

She will sing "Woman's World," the first single off her upcoming album of the same name, the network said.

Cher, who turned 67 in May, joins other pop artists who have appeared on TV contests to promote new records. They include "Voice" guest stars Rod Stewart and Lady Antebellum.

Cher's "Woman's World" album, her first in 12 years, is due out later this year.

The Grammy, Oscar and



This April 24, 2013 file photo shows performer Cher at the AFI Night at the Movies at the Arclight in Los Angeles.

Associated Press

Emmy winner has scored a No. 1 single on the Billboard pop charts in each of the last six decades, including her 1998 single "Believe." □



This April 30, 2012 file photo shows comedian and TV host Joan Rivers from the show "Fashion Police" and her daughter Melissa Rivers at an E! Network upfront event in New York.

Associated Press

'Glee' star Jane Lynch and wife announce divorce



In this Jan. 29, 2012, file photo, Jane Lynch, left, and Lara Embry arrive at the 18th Annual Screen Actors Guild Awards in Los Angeles.

Associated Press

The Associated Press

"Glee" star Jane Lynch is divorcing her wife of three years. Lynch married Dr. Lara Embry in 2010 in Massachusetts. She told People magazine in a statement Monday that splitting up was "a difficult decision for us as we care very deeply about one another."

Lynch asked for privacy for

the family, which includes Embry's daughter.

The 52-year-old actress met Embry, a 44-year-old clinical psychologist, in 2009 and they wed on Memorial Day in 2010.

Lynch is currently starring in "Annie" on Broadway and performed on Sunday night's Tony Awards on CBS. □

'Fashion Police' fetes host Joan Rivers at age 80

FRAZIER MOORE

AP Television Writer

NEW YORK (AP) — "I'm having a great time," Joan Rivers crows before offering a brisk self-appraisal: "Everything is working, my mind is fine."

"The only time I play the age card is on planes when I'm trying to put a bag above the seat: 'I am 80 years old! Would someone PLEASE help me?!'"

Actually, she only turned 80 on Saturday, a milestone that has prompted the E! network to stage a Joan Rivers "takeover": Its regular one-hour edition of "Fashion Police" (airing Friday at 10 p.m. EDT) will be a black-tie birthday salute, preceded nightly through Thursday by special half-hours (at 10:30 p.m. EDT) featuring guest appearances by celebrities and even victims of past fashion slams.

This means frequent-flier Rivers would soon be back on a plane for Los Angeles to tape this five-day marathon while she marvels at the success of "Fashion Police," which, since premiering three years ago, has only tightened its grip in the culture as a wicked hybrid

of style and snark.

Rivers is well-served by her co-hosts Giuliana Rancic, Kelly Osbourne and George Kotsiopoulos, all of whom can deliver shrewd analysis as well as piercing gibes at red-carpet infractions.

But "Fashion Police" is perfectly tailored to the comedic skills of Rivers as demonstrated by her 46-years-and-counting in show biz. Hear her hail Uma Thurmond, sheathed in Versace at the Cannes Film Festival: "This gown is so feminine, so silver — it's the Anderson Cooper of dresses!"

Hear her skewer a baggy, dizzyingly hued Alexander McQueen jumpsuit worn by actress Marion Cotillard at a Crash Magazine party: "The pattern looks like Precious sat on somebody's butterfly collection."

Sure, it's "Police" brutality, but Rivers and her "Joan Rangers" are never less than arresting.

At first, Rivers resisted the urge to do the show.

"I remember, I was in Vegas on a treadmill — cause you STILL try! — saying to my agent and (daughter) Melissa, 'cause Melissa's exec-producing, 'You're crazy!

I'm not gonna do this! I'm not gonna commute!'"

Her mind was changed.

"We do the jokes, and we tell the truth, too," Rivers sums up proudly. "E! told me, 'Whatever you want to say, you say.' We're having so much fun! And our lawyers are so dear."

Interviewed last week, she presides from an ottoman in the den of her vast Upper East Side Manhattan digs, a spread whose unabashed spectacle she dubs "Louis XIV meets Fred (Astaire) and Ginger (Rogers)."

It's 9 a.m. and Rivers, having apologized for being "only half-dressed," has presented herself in stocking feet and a chic, floor-length black-velvet caftan (part of her Joan Rivers Collection, she notes; she also has a jewelry collection).

She says her interest in fashion reaches back to her girlhood, when, still in school in New York, she had a job as a fashion coordinator at a department store chain, then another job where she assisted with the creation of Lord & Taylor's legendary Fifth Avenue window displays every Thursday night. □



This June 6, 2013 file photo shows actor John Malkovich in Toronto to promoting his new role as Casanova in "The Giacomo Variations," which he performed over the weekend.

Associated Press

John Malkovich helps tourist hurt in Canada

DEFIANCE, Ohio (AP) — A U.S. tourist says actor John Malkovich played a starring role in coming to his rescue when he fell and gashed his throat on scaffolding in Canada. Seventy-seven-year-old Jim Walpole fell Thursday in Toronto while on a trans-Canadian trip. Walpole tells the Toronto Star that Malkovich, who was appearing at a local theater, applied pressure to slow the bleeding until medics arrived. The injury required 10 stitches.

Ben Quinn, whose family owns a restaurant nearby, held Walpole's head. He said by phone Monday that Malkovich "had everything under control" quickly, didn't want attention and called later to check on Walpole. A message seeking an update was left for Walpole on Monday. Representatives for Malkovich did not immediately respond to messages seeking comment. □

Def Leppard's Campbell says he has cancer



In a May 25, 2006, file photo Vivian Campbell, left, and Phil Collen, right, of rock group Def Leppard perform in Las Vegas.

Associated Press

NEW YORK (AP) — Def Leppard guitarist Vivian Campbell says he is being treated for cancer.

In a statement Monday, the 50-year-old says he has Hodgkin's lymphoma and has been in chemotherapy for two months, with four months of treatment remaining.

Says Campbell: "I feel for-

tunate that my cancer sent me an alarm call in the form of 'the cough that wouldn't quit.'"

Campbell says he still plans to hit the road this summer with Def Leppard. The first show is at the Hellfest music festival in France on June 21. The tour wraps up July 17 in Canandaigua, New York. □

ABC's 'The Lookout' a new outlet for 'Nightline'



This May 2013 publicity image released by ABC shows Bill Weir, left, and Cynthia McFadden, of the news magazine show "The Lookout," in New York. "The Lookout" emphasizes consumer issues with a mix of investigative and trend stories, striving for a hip look that breaks down walls with viewers.

Associated Press

DAVID BAUDER
AP Television Writer

NEW YORK (AP) — Yes, Cynthia McFadden, Bill Weir and Terry Moran of ABC's "Nightline" are still at work at ABC News, and this summer, even noninsomniacs can see them.

The "Nightline" team is behind "The Lookout," a prime-time newsmagazine that has gotten off to a slow start on Wednesday nights. "The Lookout" is both a chance for the journalists to try something new and an olive branch by network bosses for evicting "Nightline" from a time slot it held for three decades.

At the same time, "Nightline" is changing its focus to respond to a shift that has it starting at 12:37 a.m. now.

"The Lookout" emphasizes consumer issues with a mix of investigative and trend stories, striving for a hip look that breaks down walls with viewers. Weir went to Switzerland to hunt an infomercial king that the U.S. is seeking to pay back customers he misled about a weight-loss product. In a McFadden report, a house with a mold problem was rigged with hidden cameras and contractors were brought in to estimate repair costs.

Jeanmarie Condon, executive producer for both "Nightline" and "The Lookout," used to work on consumer-oriented programming on the former newsmagazine "Primetime Live." She believes it's an underserved area in network news.

"Nobody doesn't care about getting good value for their money — rich, poor, young and old," she said.

Weir's quarry, Kevin Trudeau, complained about "ambush journalism" when the correspondent stopped him on a Zurich street. That doesn't mean Weir turned into Mike Wallace.

For the story, Weir interviewed one of Trudeau's disgruntled customers while driving around in a Bentley that Trudeau once leased. He carried a life-size cardboard cutout of Trudeau. When the infomercial king pleaded poverty, Weir pointed to his ring and a gleaming sparkle was added. The correspondent calls Trudeau one of the most outrageous liars he's ever seen, using a profane term that's partly bleeped out.

In an interview with a government official tracking

the case, Weir offhandedly asks whether he has a gun, a question seemingly pulled from "The Daily Show" playbook.

Through most of the report, Weir has a bemused smile on his face.

"You can't help but laugh at the audacity of his claims — both on infomercials and in court," Weir said. "I told him on the street in Zurich that watching him sell and spin is like watching Ted Williams take batting practice. He is a unique case, but when appropriate, I'd like to use the same approach to go after bigger fish. Bringing the audience along on the chase helps liven up all these stories filled with boring documents."

ABC is trying to tell the stories in a fresh way, McFadden said. Some graphics, like identifying people on the screen with written names and an arrow, seemed tailored to entice a younger audience to watch news programming that usually skews older.

"I don't think we're setting out to make the stories entertaining," McFadden said. "You can get into a lot of trouble when you stop focusing on the journalism and start making it — quote — entertaining." □

The Spite Club



PAUL KRUGMAN
© 2013 New York Times

House Republicans have voted 37 times to repeal ObamaRomneyCare - the Affordable Care Act, which creates a national health insurance system similar to the one Massachusetts has had since 2006. Nonetheless, almost all of the act will go fully into effect at the beginning of next year.

There is, however, one form of obstruction still available to the GOP. Last year's Supreme Court decision upholding the law's constitutionality also gave states the right to opt out of one piece of the plan, a federally financed expansion of Medicaid. Sure enough, a number of Republican-dominated states seem set to reject Medicaid expansion, at least at first.

And why would they do this? They won't save money. On the contrary, they will hurt their own budgets and damage their own economies. Nor will Medicaid rejectionism serve any clear political purpose. As I'll explain later, it will probably hurt Republicans for years to come.

No, the only way to understand the refusal to expand Medicaid is as an act of sheer spite. And the cost of that spite won't just come in the form of lost dollars; it will also come in the form of gratuitous hardship for some of our most vulnerable citizens.

Some background: Obamacare rests on three pillars. First, insurers must offer the same coverage to everyone regardless of medical history. Second, everyone must purchase coverage - the famous "mandate" - so that the young and healthy don't opt out until they get older and/or sicker. Third, premiums will be subsidized, so as to make insurance affordable for everyone. And this system is going into effect next year, whether Republicans like it or not.

Under this system, by the way, a few people - basically young, healthy individuals who don't already get insurance from their employers, and whose incomes are high enough that they won't benefit from subsidies - will end up paying more for insurance than they do now. Right-wingers are hyping this observation as if it were some kind of shocking surprise, when it was, in fact, well-known to everyone from the beginning of the debate. And,

as far as anyone can tell, we're talking about a small number of people who are, by definition, relatively well off.

Back to the Medicaid expansion. Obamacare, as I've just explained, relies on subsidies to make insurance affordable for lower-income Americans. But we already have a program, Medicaid, providing health coverage to very-low-income Americans, at a cost private insurers can't match. So the Affordable Care Act, sensibly, relies on an expansion of Medicaid rather than the mandate-plus-subsidy arrangement to guarantee care to the poor and near-poor.

But Medicaid is a joint federal-state program, and the Supreme Court made it possible for states to opt out of the expansion. And it appears that a number of states will take advantage of that "opportunity." What will that mean?

A new study from the RAND Corp., a nonpartisan research institution, examines the consequences if 14 states whose governors have declared their opposition to Medicaid expansion do, in fact, reject the expansion. The result, the study concluded, would be a huge financial hit: The rejectionist states would lose more than \$8 billion a year in federal aid, and would also find themselves on the hook for roughly \$1 billion more to cover the losses hospitals incur when treating the uninsured.

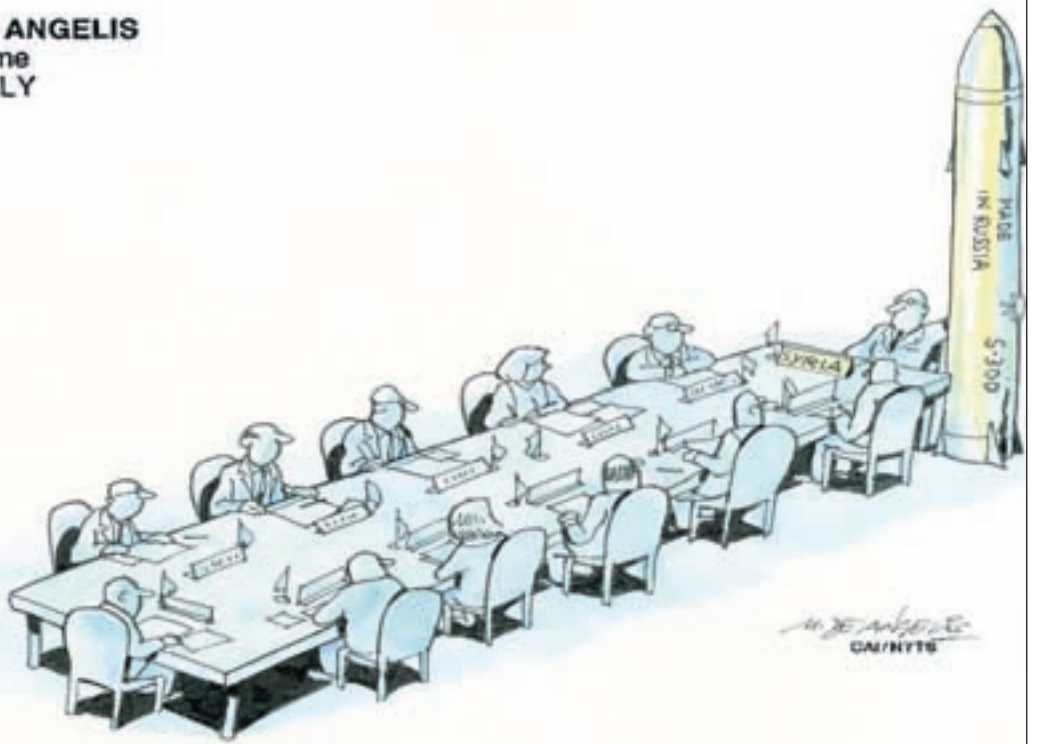
Meanwhile, Medicaid rejectionism will deny health coverage to roughly 3.6 million Americans, with essentially all of the victims living near or below the poverty line. And since experience shows that Medicaid expansion is associated with significant declines in mortality, this would mean a lot of avoidable deaths: about 19,000 a year, the study estimated.

Just think about this for a minute. It's one thing when politicians refuse to spend money helping the poor and vulnerable; that's just business as usual. But here we have a case in which politicians are, in effect, spending large sums, in the form of rejected aid, not to help the poor but to hurt them.

And as I said, it doesn't even make sense as cynical politics. If Obamacare works (which it will), millions of middle-income voters - the kind of people who might support either party in future elections - will see major benefits, even in rejectionist states. So rejectionism won't discredit health reform. What it might do, however, is drive home to lower-income voters - many of them nonwhite - just how little the GOP cares about their well-being, and reinforce the already strong Democratic advantage among Latinos, in particular.

Rationally, in other words, Republicans should accept defeat on health care, at least for now, and move on. Instead, however, their spitefulness appears to override all other considerations. And millions of Americans will pay the price. □

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The Power Inversion



DAVID BROOKS
© 2013 New York Times

There's a weird calm around Washington these days. The Obama administration only has a year before the lame-duck status sets in. Yet you don't get a sense of urgency. White House officials seem busy running the government, but they are not filling the public space with a transformational second-term agenda. Republican leaders aren't offering bold plans either. They seem more worried about offending pieces of the current coalition than in attracting new ones. The heart of the problem is that nobody wants to champion proposals that have no chance of passing. Washington is immobilized by interest groups, polarization and a lack of federal dollars. In their new book, "The Metropolitan Revolution," Bruce Katz and Jennifer Bradley of the Brookings Institution argue that Washington paralysis is already leading to a power inversion. As the federal government becomes less energetic, city governments become more so.

Katz and Bradley describe a country that is segmenting slightly into divergent city-states. Demographically, society is clustering. In an era when the nuclear two-parent family was the key demographic unit, it made sense to think of America as a suburban economy with common needs. But now two-parent nuclear families account for only a fifth of all households. The young,

the old and the single make up a huge slice of the population, and they flock to density. According to Robert Puentes of Brookings, the share of young people with driver's licenses is plummeting. Public transit ridership rose 32.3 percent between 1995 and 2011. Economic changes also reinforce regional concentration. For decades, companies sought to protect their intellectual property by isolating their research-and-development functions in suburban research parks. But now scientific breakthroughs are less likely to come from discrete teams. They tend to come from large, loose networks of researchers brought together in physical proximity. It makes sense to locate research facilities in urban districts, often around urban universities, where researchers will make wider and more flexible contacts.

Gerry Carlino of the Philadelphia Fed has found that the number of patents per capita increases roughly 20 to 30 percent for every doubling of employment density. Research by Stuart Rosenthal of Syracuse University and William Strange of the University of Toronto suggests that the intellectual spillovers that often drive innovation drop off as companies move more than a mile apart from each other.

Given this underlying structure, there are a number of reasons city governments are likely to be more dynamic than the federal government. In the first place, regional identity trumps partisan identity. In Washington, your primary affiliation is to your party. But, in Denver, your primary affiliation is to the health of the Denver area. That common consciousness makes it easier for politicians in different parties to cooperate. Metro governments deal with issues in their particularity, not as abstractions. Leaders in north-eastern Ohio can focus on their region's historic strengths, including a history of expertise with polymers. That leads to certain concrete opportunities - the chance to get into flexible electronics, which are very thin elec-

tronic components attached to flexible materials. They can design specific policies around concrete circumstances.

Because issues on the regional level are so tangible, it is possible to debate new proposals without getting immobilized by the big government-versus-small government frame. Republican mayors tend to be more activist than their congressional counterparts, and Democratic mayors tend to be more business friendly. Katz and Bradley highlight New York City's fantastically successful effort to lure the Technion-Cornell engineering school. That was an exercise in using government to set the table for long-term growth by luring human capital, not in trying to micromanage the future with shiny office buildings, a downtown stadium or a mall.

Finally, city governments actually have power over the basics, which are the key to promoting growth. American growth lags not because of higher order problems, but because of the bad elemental things, like lousy schools and bad infrastructure. Cities can change this. A study by the Economist Intelligence Unit predicted that Chicago will be the ninth most competitive city in the world by 2025. Its rise in the rankings is fueled by the fact that the city is taking care of fundamentals: \$7.3 billion in infrastructure spending over the next two years, a community college program that links education to employment.

Since the New Deal, we have become accustomed to seeing American politics as an ever-concentrated national enterprise. But the sclerosis of the federal system will inevitably produce a reversal, as regions fill the void.

The happiest people these days are those who leave Washington and get elected mayor or governor. The most frustrated people are people who were mayor and governor and get elected to the Senate. They end each day knowing they were busy. They're just not sure they accomplished anything. □

Weaned on CDs, young music lovers now reach for vinyl

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Vinyl is growing out of its niche.

There were always record collectors who disdained the compact disc, arguing that an LP's grooves yielded warmth and depth that the CD's digital code could not match.

But the market largely ignored them. Record labels shuttered their LP pressing plants, except for a few that pressed mostly dance

ca duo Daft Punk released "Random Access Memories" in mid-May, 6 percent out of 339,000 - were on vinyl, according to Nielsen SoundScan, which measures music sales.

Other groups with a predominantly college-aged audience have had similar success: the same week, the National sold 7,000 vinyl copies of its latest album, "Trouble Will Find Me," and 10,000 Vampire Weekend

early Rolling Stones and Bob Dylan catalogs - have had vinyl reissues in recent years as well.

Michael Fremer, who monitors the LP world on his website, Analogplanet.com, said: "None of these companies are pressing records to feel good. They're doing it because they think they can sell."

About a dozen pressing plants have sprouted up in the United States, along with the few that survived

its owner, Chad Kassem, grew impatient with delays at a larger plant where his own line of blues reissues was being pressed.

His company, which runs four presses - acquired used, but modified to run more efficiently - now makes LPs for all the majors, and lists Jimi Hendrix, Eric Clapton and Nirvana reissues among its recent projects. He is pressing 900,000 vinyl discs a year.

"We've always had more

making other kinds of machinery.

The last new press was built in 1982, so relatively recent startups like Quality and Brooklyn Phono searched out used presses (the going rate is about \$25,000) and reconditioned them. Most plants have deals with local machine shops to make replacement parts.

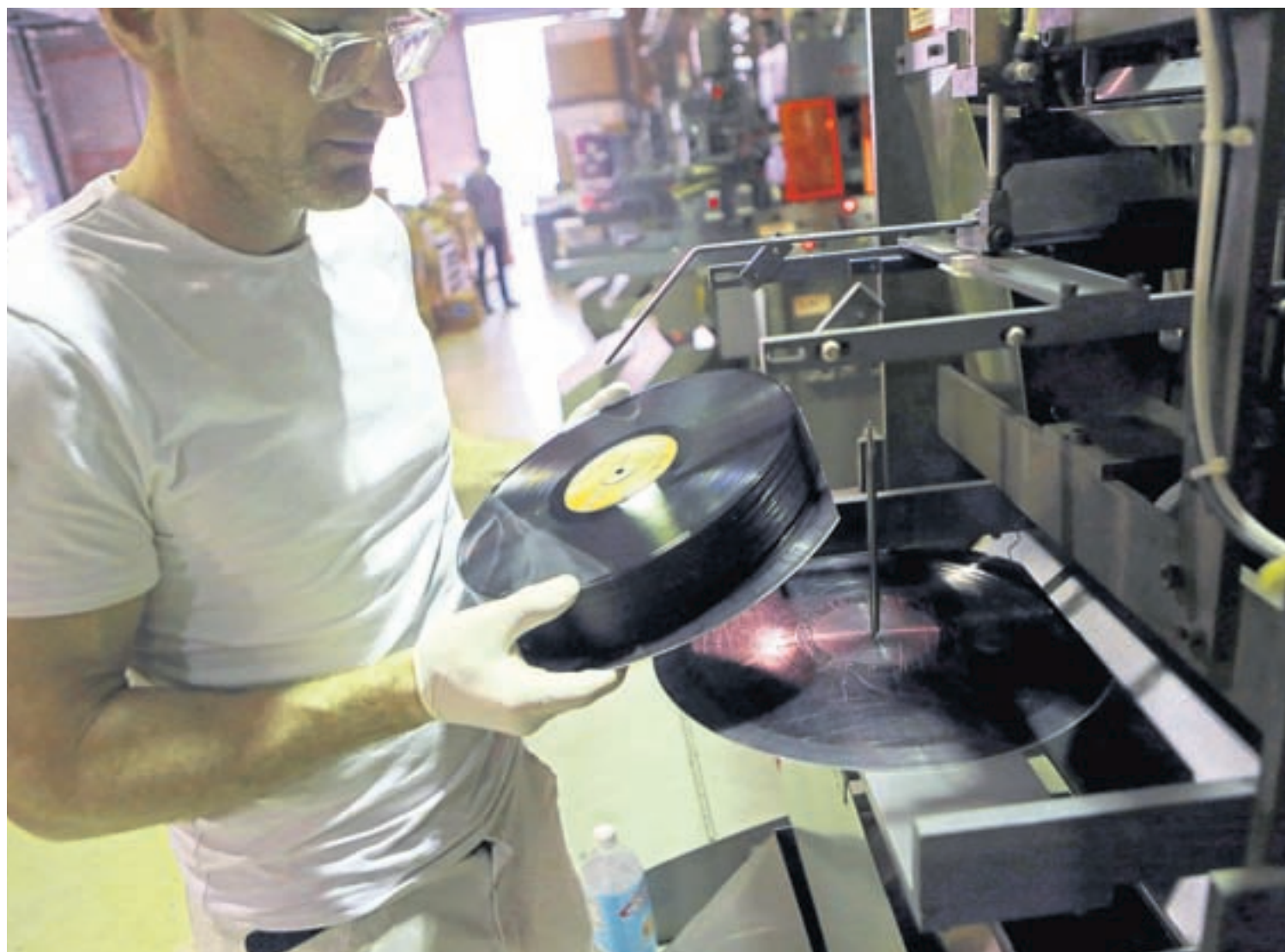
Some pressing plants have looked into commissioning or building new presses but have found the cost prohibitive - as much as \$500,000, said Eric Astor of Furnace MFG in Fairfax, Va. "Since my partner also owns a CD/DVD plant," Astor said in an email, "we've been testing using the methods used in disc manufacturing to make a new breed of vinyl record, but that R&D is slow going and not looking promising."

Vinyl retailers are thriving as well. Kassem of Quality Record Pressings also runs Acoustic Sounds, which sells LPs as well as turntables and accessories, including cleaning machines and protective sleeves. Music Direct, a Chicago company that owns Mobile Fidelity Sound Lab, a storied audiophile label, has a similarly broad stock, including a selection of turntables that ranges from the \$249 Music Hall USB-1 to the \$25,000 Avid Acutus. Josh Bizar, the company's director of sales and marketing, said that Music Direct sold 500,000 LPs and "thousands of turntables" last year.

And the buyers, Bizar said, are by no means boomer nostalgists.

"When you look at the sales for a group like Daft Punk," he said, "you're seeing young kids collecting records like we did when we were young."

"We never expected the vinyl resurgence to become as crazy as it is. But it's come full circle. We get kids calling us up and telling us why they listen to vinyl, and when we ask them why they don't listen to CDs, they say, 'CDs? My dad listens to CDs - why would I do that?'" □



Thomas Bernich, who started Brooklyn Phono in 2000, during the vinyl record making process, in New York, June 7, 2013. Vinyl records almost disappeared after CDs were introduced, but they're making a comeback — and a surprising number of LP buyers are young listeners.

(Andrea Mohin/The New York Times)

music, since vinyl remained the medium of choice for DJs.

As it turned out, that early resistance was not futile, thanks largely to an audience of record collectors, many born after CDs were introduced in the 1980s.

These days, every major label and many smaller ones are releasing vinyl, and most major new releases have a vinyl version, leading to a spate of new pressing plants.

When the French electroni-

fans opted for the LP version of "Modern Vampires of the City." When the Front Bottoms, a New Jersey indie band, posted a photo of their players carrying stacks of LP mailing boxes on their Facebook page recently, their label, Bar/None, racked up what Glenn Morrow, who owns the label, described as "phone orders for \$2,000 worth of LPs in 10 minutes." A growing number of classic albums - including the complete Beatles and

from the first vinyl era, and they say business is so brisk that they are working to capacity.

Thomas Bernich, who started Brooklyn Phono in 2000, says that his company makes about 440,000 LPs a year, but a giant like Rainbo Records, in Canoga Park, Calif., turns out 6 million to 7.2 million, said Steve Sheldon, its general manager.

One plant, Quality Record Pressings, in Salina, Kan., opened in 2011 after

work than we could do," Kassem said. "When we had one press, we had enough orders for two. When we had two, we had enough orders for four. We never spent a dollar on advertising, but we've been busy from the day we opened."

There is a limit to how much the vinyl business can expand right now. When it seemed inevitable that CDs would supplant LPs, the companies that made vinyl presses shifted to